

THE North-China Herald

AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XIX., No. 537. SHANGHAI, AUGUST 25, 1877. PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLE—	
Squeezing by Military Officers in China	173
SUMMARY OF NEWS.	174
EDITORIAL SELECTIONS (from <i>Daily News</i>):	
The new Regulations for calling places on the Yangtze	177
Legal Consuls	177
Kwoh Sung-tao's Memorial on Opium	178
Early Japanese invasions of China	178
Review—	
The Mikado's Empire, by Wm. Griffiths—New York	179
OUTPORTS, &c.—	
Tientsin	180
Chefoo	180
Ningpo	180
Swatow	180
Hongkong	180
Canton	181
Nagasaki	181
Hiogo	181
Yokohama	181
PEKING GAZETTES	182
OFFICIAL PAPERS—	
Memorial by Kwoh Sung-tao on Opium-smoking	184
PUBLIC MEETINGS—	
The Municipal Council	185
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. (Report)	185
MISCELLANEOUS—	
Regulations for the new ports of call on the Yangtze	185
Collision between the str. <i>Dragon</i> and H.M.S. <i>Frolic</i>	186
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Tea Prospects	186
Canine Interment	187
LAW REPORTS—(Officially revised)	
Civil Summary—	
The Chang-ho v. Brandon	187
Police—	
R. v. Hill	187
R. v. Asson	187
Mixed Court—	
Gilmour & Co. v. Sze Yuen-chang	187
Gilman & Co. v. Ting Ping-chai	187
Sundry Cases	188
EXTRACTS—	
The Rebellion in Japan	188
The War in the North-west	189
Chinese Naval Expenditure	190
British Consular Reports on Trade in	
Japan	190
Telegrams	191
CLIPPINGS	191
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE—	
Tables of Tea, Silk and Cotton Exports	192
Market Report	193
Exchange Quotations	196
Share Quotations	196

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.			
England, ...	July 6	Hankow, ...	Aug. 22
San Francisco, ...	15	Yokohama, ...	15
Hongkong, ...	Aug. 17	Nagasaki, ...	21
Tientsin, ...	21	Foochow, ...	22
Latest Mail dates in England, from China			
Hongkong, ...	May 19	Received 2nd July.	
Shanghai, ...	13		

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, on the 21st August, the wife of JOHN H. HUNT, of a daughter.
At Tientsin, on the 20th inst., the wife of P. LOUP LATOUR, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

At the Imperial German Consulate, and afterwards at the Cathedral of the Holy Trinity, on the 22nd August, by the Very Reverend Dean Butcher, FERDINAND BORCHARDT, of Hamburg, to the Contessa BIANCA SANTA DE BORISI, youngest daughter of the Conte BERNARDO DE BORISI, of Capo d'Istria (Austria.)

DEATH.

At the Shanghai Hospital, on the 24th August, 1877, Captain J. A. JOHNSON, of Baltimore, Maryland.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Appin*, for Tientsin—Mr. Cottam.
For Chefoo—Mr. Starick.
Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Lient. W. Little, U.S.N., and Mr. R. Wyper.
For Hiogo—Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, and Mr. B. Sauné. For Yokohama—Miss K. Brown, Rev. M. A. Churchill, Messrs. C. Lucas, J. Robertson and J. Brown. For San Francisco—Messrs. F. Reid, J. F. Rodewald, J. Dunn and A. F. Thompson.
Per str. *Haeting*, for Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Dunman and family, Mrs. Henderson and family, Captain Bolton, and Mr. F. Johansen.
Per str. *Haesan*, for Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. F. Borchardt.
Per str. *Glenroy*, for New York—Mrs. W. Duncan and child, Mrs. J. S. Duncan and child, Miss Duncan, Mrs. Josslyn and child, Capt. and Mrs. Hallett, and Dr. Coles.
Per str. *Taku*, for Chefoo—Mrs. Riach, six children and 3 servants, and Mrs. Hopkins.
Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Pootoo—Messrs. E. G. C. Webb, A. Fergusson, E. G. Moberly, J. I. Miller, G. C. de St. Croix, M. S. Gubbay, J. W. Symons, J. Hart, Camm, Hay, Dodwell, Smith, Morehead, Shaw, Sears, A. Teillot, Dumaresq, J. S. Baron, and Arrbuger.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Europe*, from Foochow—Mr. Lowe.
Per str. *Appin*, from Tientsin—Mr. Smith.
Per str. *Haeting*, from Tientsin—The Hon. G. F. Seward, Lieut. Little, U.S.N., and Mr. F. B. Forbes.
Per str. *Hankow*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, and Mr. Maitland. From Kiukiang—Mr. A. Bean.
Per str. *Nestor*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Ayrton and Elliott.
Per str. *Saikio Maru*, from Japan—Hon. J. L. Cadwallader, Rev. J. C. Hoare, Miss Tea, Messrs. Carnie, Forbes, Poate, Shaw, Sears, and Robins.
Per str. *Leeyuen*, from Tientsin—Mr. Saunders.

LEAVING.

Per str. *Iraoudady*, for Marseilles—Messrs. A. E. Hippisley, J. Findlay, T. Deacon, and Schönhard. For Hongkong—Messrs. J. L. Pustau, and G. M. Forbes.

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Tals 12; Six Months, Tals 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.



NOTIFICATION.

No. 19 of 1877.

IN accordance with instructions received from HUGH FRASER, Esquire, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires, the following Notification is published for general information.

ARTHUR DAVENPORT,
Acting-Consul.

H.B.M.'s CONSULATE,
Shanghai, 20th Aug., 1877.

NOTIFICATION.

THE undersigned hereby notifies to British Shipping that five places on the Yangtze Kiang—namely, Ta-tung and Ngan-k'ing, in the province of An-hui; Wu-süeh, Lu-chi-k'ou, and Shin-shih, in Hu-Kwang, are now accessible to Steamers as places of call, under the conditions of the Chefoo Agreement, and under those of the Regulations of Trade on the Yangtze Kiang already in force.

Hu-k'ou, in Kiang Si, which requires special regulations, will for the present remain excluded from this arrangement.

The conditions which the Chefoo Agreement provides for Trade at these places are the following:—

Steamers shall be allowed to touch for the purpose of landing or shipping passengers or goods; but in all instances by means of native boats only, and subject to the regulations in force affecting native trade.

Produce accompanied by a half-duty certificate may be shipped at such points by the steamers, but may not be landed by them for sale. Imports accompanied by a Transit duty certificate, and exports similarly certificated, will be severally passed free of the native duties on exhibition of such certificates. Imports or exports not protected by Transit certificates will be liable to the duties in force for native trade.

HUGH FRASER,

H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires.

Peking, 10th Aug., 1877.

THE publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 3.30 p.m.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, AUG. 25, 1877.

A MEMORIAL from the Governor of Foh-kien, in the *Peking Gazette* of the 3rd August, exactly illustrates the system of speculation which we described last week, when remarking on the disinclination of the District Commandant of Ningpo to have the war-junks under

his orders put out of commission. His profits in this particular case were probably small, as the junks were of a better class and better found than is usually the case in Chinese military matters. The Formosan case referred to by Ting Jih-chang, however, illustrates the system at its worst. The nominal force to be maintained in any district is set down at a certain figure, and the officer in command is given a fixed sum to provide this force. No extras are allowed; out of the sum allotted the men have to be clothed, accoutrements to be kept in order, powder to be purchased, and all the various incidental expenses that necessarily arise, have to be provided. Obviously this can only be done by curtailing the number of men enrolled. And it is not difficult to imagine that it depends very much on the conscience of the individual Mandarin how far he will open the door thus set ajar. All that he has to do is to exhibit his putative number of soldiers at periodical inspections, and any degree of economy can be effected in the meantime. Fifty men only may be kept in barracks, and the remaining fifty be turned out to earn their own livelihood, till the time for inspection comes round again, when they are recalled to the colours. As there has been rather a military revival of late, things probably are better now than they were before the Taeping rebellion. When that rebellion broke out, this system of peculation had reached a maximum, and the result was that the forces which should have been available to make head against it existed chiefly on paper. There was then, in many cases, scarcely a pretence at filling up the cadres. The veriest skeleton of a battalion was maintained, and coolies were clothed on the day of inspection and put in the ranks, in order that the inspecting officer might be able conscientiously to report that the full number was present. This is done no doubt to a certain extent, at present; but a somewhat less harmful method is that of keeping the men on the rolls, but turning a certain number adrift to earn their own livelihood, giving only a certain allowance of rice, in consideration of which they come to occasional drills and, of course, to all formal parades.

However, as we said before, the extent to which this peculation is carried on depends no doubt very much upon the conscience and opportunities of the Commandant; and as the conscience of a Chinese mandarin is fairly elastic, we may infer that opportunity is the most powerful factor. The island of Formosa must have been

hitherto a perfect paradise for Mandarin financiers. The government imperfectly organised upon a system more or less peculiar to the island, and subject to scarcely any interference or inspection from the mainland—the officials must have been able to compensate themselves for their banishment by squeezing at will. These good times, however, are at an end; Formosa is to be placed on the same footing as the mainland, and a certain semblance, at least, of decorum insisted on. By the light of the remarks we have made above, it is not difficult to read between the lines of the Governor's memorial about the General commanding at Taiwan. This officer reports that during his recent visit to Fengshan he dismissed 248 weakly and superannuated men from the two battalions having their headquarters at that place; but Ting remarks that during his recent visit to the island he observed the proportion of inefficient men to be 80 or 90 per cent. of the whole, and that, in dismissing no more than 248, the General has made a mere pretence of discharging his duty. The Governor, in fact, knows as well as the General himself that many of the men who are professed to have been weeded out were probably never really on the rolls; though a certain number may have been, as to pay an old and useless man \$2, instead of a young and active one \$6, is one way of combining a fair profit with a decent regard to appearances, which is quite familiar to military mandarins. But what is quite clear is that the system of attenuated battalions and of under-paid useless men has been carried to its extreme in the case in point, and that a certain reform is being insisted on, which the General wants to make as small as possible, but which the Governor insists shall be much larger. Both indulge in euphemisms in their public references to the subject; while secret negotiations are probably going on between the General's man of business and the Futai's private secretary, to ascertain the smallest number of efficient who will really be insisted on.

It is said that among other reforms contemplated by the Futai of Chekeang, the abolition of the local militia in his district has been threatened, and we can imagine the consternation caused by such a threat. But his Excellency is perfectly right in applying to the military the principle which he asserted in the case of the war-junks. These have been superseded by the introduction of steamers. So have the militia been superseded by the introduction of regular troops, such as those of Li

Hung-chang at Tientsin, and others drilled on the foreign method, who are maintained in different portions of the Empire. What is the use of both? and especially of a rabble such as the local militia?

Summary of News.

We have had no mail arrival during the week.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the M.M. str. *Iraovaddy*.

Late telegrams report a series of defeats to the Russians, both in Europe and Asia.—In Europe they have been repulsed at Rustchuk and Osman Bazar; and in Asia they have incurred reverses at Batoum and Kars. The Sultan has called on all able-bodied men to join the army.

Telegrams were received yesterday, saying Valentine Baker had been placed in command of the Turkish cavalry, and estimating the loss of the Russians in their retreat across the Balkans at 4,000 men.

Commercial telegrams report the silk market utterly disorganised, a considerable failure in Lyons, and much lower rates.

The prolonged dullness of the silk market has forced upon the Municipal Council the reflection that their revenue may very possibly suffer from the smallness of the export; and a judicious curtailment of outlay is proposed, until the way is clearer.—A tender for cleaning out the Yang-king-pang has been accepted, and work will be begun as soon as the Health Officer allows.

A heavy dew somewhat marred the enjoyment of the performance by the Amateur Wind Instrument Society, at the Public Garden, on Wednesday evening. But there was an average attendance of both ladies and gentlemen, and many of the former risked the damp until the programme was finished. The band was rather weak in numbers, and the music on that account was hardly so good as it generally is, but on the whole it was creditable to our Amateurs.

The judgment delivered at the Mixed Court, together with the remarks of the English Assessor, in the case *Gilman & Co. v. Ting Ping-chai*, will be read with interest. It will be remembered that the defendant tried to repudiate his interest in a consignment of silk which resulted in a heavy loss, alleging that it was sold to, and not consigned on his account through, the plaintiffs.—The Magistrate upholds the claim of the plaintiffs, and condemns the untruthfulness and prevarication of the defendant, in unhesitating terms. Both he and the Assessor, however, remark that strong confirmation of the claim would have been furnished, and much time and trouble saved, if the defendant's signature had been required, attesting the consignment. The neglect is blamed, and the adoption of so essentially desirable a precaution in future, in the Shanghai trade, recommended.

A correspondent says the heavy rain on Saturday night appears to have disagreed materially with the locusts in this neighborhood. On Saturday they were to be seen at every step, in the fields; but on Sunday he did not "put up" a single one.

If any of them did survive the downpour of Saturday night they must, we imagine, have been extinguished by the deluge of Tuesday. We have seldom seen heavier rain than fell between 6 and 7 a.m. on that day. We are getting rather too much rain now. The cotton plants have a tendency to run too much to stalk and leaf, and the rice, which is now heavy in ear, will get beaten down.

Reuter's telegrams quote Blue Elephants 16s. 9d., and Common No. 5, 14s. 9d., against about a shilling lower rates mentioned in private telegrams. The Chinese, who were prepared to drop, of course take the higher quotation, and are now holding off, choosing in some cases to consign on their own account and accept the additional risk, instead of incurring the certain loss of sale at present prices.

Five of the places of call on the Yangtze, stipulated for in the Chefoo Convention, are formally declared open in a Notification which finds place on our front page. These are Tatung and Nganking in the province of Anhwei; Wusueh, Luchikow, and Shasi, in Hukwang.—The opening of Hukow at the mouth of the Poyang Lake, in Kiangsi, is deferred for the present, on the ground that it requires special regulations.

We publish elsewhere a copy which has come into our hands, of the proposed rules for the landing and shipment of merchandise and payment of inland duties, at the new places of call on the Yangtze. These rules are, we understand, to be adopted experimentally by the native Customs. Officials at these places—which, not being treaty ports, will of course not fall under the Imperial Maritime Customs régime. The very careful provisions which are made for the payment of *lekin* will be noted; but the transit-pass provisions of the treaties of course retain their full power as regards foreign goods.

We print elsewhere a full translation of a memorial sent from England by the Chief Envoy, Kwoh Sung-tao, with reference to the suppression of opium-smoking. The document, which bears date in April last, will be read with interest, as well on account of the facts stated as of the recommendations put forward. One of the most noteworthy features is the conspicuous absence of those arguments connected with the physiological results of opium-smoking, which are the ground-work for the denunciations indulged in by the philanthropists at home. The question is treated almost exclusively from the point of view of the agricultural theory of the Chinese Government, and as a question of expenditure. The admitted fact that opium was prohibited in China prior to A.D. 1735—i.e. about half a century before the first importations worth speaking of arrived from India, is also valuable as shewing that the cultivation and use of opium date a long way back in China. A decree based upon the memorial was issued to the Provincial Governments, but not published, on or about the 1st June, directing the Governors-General and Governors to "see what can be done" in the matter. From the tone of the decree, it is not very probable that much is expected of the provinces.

Mr. G. F. Seward, American Minister, arrived Monday from Tientsin, by the China Merchants' Company steamer *Hae-tung*.

The Hon. John L. Cadwallader, late Assistant Secretary of State at Washington, arrived Thursday by the *Saikio Maru*, en route, it is understood, for Peking, India, and thence to Europe.

Commander Hippisley, of H.M.S. *Hornet*, has been raised to the rank of Post Captain.

An interruption has occurred on the Northern lines of telegraph, between Chabarowka and Vladivostock, caused by inundation.

A curious contribution was sent Thursday to the Museum, in the shape of a snake with a number of eggs and a little one just hatched, which were found in an old wall at the back of the Missionary School near the West Gate.—There were ten eggs, a little smaller than an average fowl's egg, all coherent; the little snake, not much bigger than a good sized worm, had just issued from the outside one of the row.

The *Taotai's* organ, the *Sin-pao*, makes a great grievance of the ill-treatment received by Chinese gold diggers in Australia. The writer seems to be ignorant of the fact that they are not privileged by any treaty to go to Australia at all; and that even if they were, the residents there have as good a right to prevent their digging for gold, as the Chinese authorities have to prevent foreigners from opening mines in China.—The *Sin-pao* also boasts of the performance of some runners (or coolies), attached to the Chinese Legation, who went to Epsom and were received by Royalty, dukes and duchesses, on a footing of perfect equality!—As a matter of fact, without any treaty, the Chinese are allowed to open mines and obtain land in Australia; while on the other side, foreigners, notwithstanding their treaties, are not even allowed to purchase land to make roads, in China.—The assertion as to the exaltation of Chinese runners, and self-abasement of English royalty, is of course too absurd for serious contradiction; though the endeavour to show how small these barbarian Princes are, by the light of their condescension to Chinese coolies, is genuinely Mandarin. But even without this, the difference in the position of the two Legations is sufficiently annoying.

We have received a copy of a pamphlet containing "The Testimony of Mr. Francis P. Knight, of China, before the United States Silver Commission appointed by Congress," which contains some interesting particulars regarding the monetary conditions in China.—Mr. Knight concludes by saying "information has reached him that it is the intention of the Chinese Government to establish a mint." We fear the wish, on the part of his informant, was father to the thought. No doubt the subject has been talked round and about, at Peking, as was shown at the last meeting of the Shanghai Chamber of Commerce. But the Chinese Government takes a long time making up its mind on such matters, and there is little confidence in its possessing either the will or the power to put such a scheme in execution.

A paper on "The use of opium and its bearing on the spread of Christianity in China," read by the Rev. A. E. Moule before the Missionary Conference, last May, has been printed as a pamphlet. The paper, and a full account of the discussion thereon, will no doubt find place in the official report of the proceedings of the Conference; but, says a prefatory note—"It has been thought that, considering the immense importance of the subject treated on, it would be well that the essay itself, together with some of the speeches referring to and the resolutions arrived at by the Conference, should be published in a separate form for circulation in England."—Mr. Moule writes eloquently and forcibly, and there are few who will not agree in his desire to see the evil of opium-smoking in China extinguished. But whether that object can now be attained by special legislation against the opium trade, either in China or in India, is another question. It has been discussed till we can hardly conceive there remains any new thing to be said on the subject; but the subject is, from many points of view, so important that it is well it should be kept before public attention.

The photographs in the August number of *The Far East* hardly come up to the usual standard, and relate solely to China. As a specimen likeness of a Chinese literate, probably no better one could have been selected than that of Mr. Tung Kio-chi, who is well-known to many residents in Shanghai as a teacher, and is an exceptionally good-looking and gentlemanly Chinese. A photograph of some Canton junks bring out clearly the one in the foreground. The picture of Yung-lo's tomb at Peking is rather indistinct. As the man who removed the seat of the Ming dynasty from Nanking to the Northern Capital, Yung-lo's name has a historical interest which may have led to the selection of his tomb for illustration, but as a picture, it is uninteresting. The Yucca which flowered this season in the Public Garden at Shanghai was a very fine specimen, but whether it was worth immortalising in the pages of the *Far East* is another question. A likeness of Monseigneur Verrolles, the Vicar Apostolic of Manchuria, follows; and a photograph of the mouth of the Woosung Creek—the letter-press description of which seems to have escaped revision—closes the series.—The letter-press opens with a fresh chapter of Monseigneur Pallegoix's description of the Kingdom of Siam; which is followed by a continuation of the Biography of Kato Kazue-no-kami Kiyomasa, which is a curious illustration of old Japanese life.—The pathetic, but rather highly-wrought, Chinese tale of "The Broken Lute" is concluded in the present number.—The "Memoir of Generals Ward, Burgvine and the Ever-Conquering Legion" is continued; but we cannot but think that it would be possible to make this more complete and accurate than the last two chapters seem to us to be. The Memoir is well worth writing, as a singular and interesting episode in Chinese history, and it is worth doing carefully.

We hear the C. N. Co's str. *Tunsin* is to join the *Soochow* on the Ningpo line. This

hardly looks like the reported agreement between the two Companies.

A telegram in the *Englishman*, dated the 17th July, from Bombay, states that the *Ajax*, from Foochow to London, had arrived at Bombay with a defect in her machinery.

The *Agamemnon* has had to put into Aden on account of a flaw having been discovered in her shaft. The spare one which she had on board was substituted, and she proceeded on her voyage within a week. News of her arrival at Singapore is expected to-morrow or next day.

Up to six o'clock last evening twenty-one persons had taken tickets to go to Pootoo by the *Kiangteen*. Their names appear on our front page. As this is the last trip of the season, no doubt more names will be added to the list to-day.

A correspondent sends us the following additional particulars with respect to the loss of the *Cashmere*:—The British India Steam Nav. Co. steamer *Cashmere*, due at Aden 9th July, was wrecked on Cape Guardafui, en route from Zanzibar to Aden. The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Beveridge and two children, Mrs. Rogers, one child and nurse, passengers, and Mr. Cade, second officer of the vessel, were drowned, and the mail lost. The remaining passengers and crew were taken by the ship *Queen Margaret* to Aden, and landed on 13th July. The *Cashmere* was a steamer of 1,100 tons register, and 200 horse power. She is said to be a total wreck.

The *China Mail* says the cargo of the steamer *Meikong* consisted mainly of new season tea and of silk, and is valued at a million pounds. Many jewellers at Galle, who send precious stones to Paris, will sustain heavy losses by the wreck of the vessel.

The German gunboat *Cyclops* arrived on Saturday, from Japan. She has on board the prisoners charged with participating in the late disturbance in Yokohama, between German and French sailors, in the course of which one of crew of the French corvette *Atalante* was killed.

The *Whitehall Review* declares that China is anxious to obtain a position as a maritime Power. "At all events, she has been negotiating lately for ironclads, and several of our large shipbuilding firms will shortly be employed in executing her orders."

The *Whitehall Review* says "the Government of Hongkong has lately made proposals for the withdrawal of European troops, on the plea that the resources of the colony are unable to bear the strain which their presence necessarily involves. The idea is that a battalion of Royal Marines should relieve the infantry regiment. The proposal has, however, been very wisely rejected, as it is considered that it would be dangerous to recall the only European regiment now stationed in the China Seas, the attitude assumed by China not being such as to guarantee any lasting peace. The contribution of Hongkong towards the military establishments is upwards of £21,000 per annum."

A letter from Shanghai in the *Osaka Nippo*, dated the 30th July, says:—"The

Japanese visitors and residents here have lately increased in numbers. The East Honganji has established a preaching place, and about twenty students are now learning the Chinese language, in order to be able to teach their religion to the Chinese. There is a Japanese small school and hospital; the Japanese in Shanghai numbering over 170, 80 of whom are women."

The *Peking Gazette* of the 1st August contains a decree, based upon a memorial from the Censor Shên Hung, lamenting the afflictions of drought, floods, locusts, and storm, which have lately visited nearly every province in the Empire; and expressing their profound sympathy of the Emperor with the sufferings of the people. The high provincial officials are instructed again to report the extent of the harm sustained, and the measures that should be instituted for relief, "in order that His Majesty's anxious care may be assuaged."

The *Gazette* of the 3rd August contains an amusing memorial from the Governor of Fohkien, regarding his recent trip to FORMOSA. Ting is penetrated with admiration for an officer named Wu Tsan-cheng, who did not get sea-sick when he himself did, but was able to continue walking happily about the deck of the steamer; and declares that "in vigour both of mind and body he (Wu) excels the memorialist in a tenfold degree."—But this is only one of Wu's achievements. Hardly had he arrived in Formosa, when he boldly proceeded to a place "which has hitherto been untrodden by the foot of man since the creation of the world"—which means presumably that no Chinese official has yet had the pluck to visit that portion of aboriginal territory.—In contrast to Wu's merits, we have the misdeed of a Brigade-General, who has failed to weed out the inefficient men from his contingent. It is not very difficult to conceive what is the state of the case here. The General has been going on the Chinese principle of keeping 10 soldiers when he was paid for 100, and filling up the ranks with coolies when called out for inspection. Ting denounces the 90 as incompetent. The General has contented himself with reporting that he has dismissed 25. Whereupon Ting gives a strong hint that he means to have a much larger proportion of the force kept up to an efficient standard.

Ting Pao-cheng, the newly appointed Governor-General of SZECHUEN, seems to be playing havoc among the officials of his new jurisdiction. The *Gazette* of the 10th August is full of denunciations of department and district magistrates who have been misappropriating public monies, squeezing the people, or otherwise misconducting themselves.—One department comes in for especial rigour, under circumstances which suggest that the Viceroy's attention may have been directed to it before he started for his post. Yeo-Yang was distinguished for a series of years as the scene of continual disturbance between the Roman proselytes and the non-Christian Chinese, and by the murder of more than one priest. Two magistrates of this department are impeached, one as "regardless of the people's affairs and possessed of but mediocre

ability," the other as guilty of "unauthorised exactions on his own behalf, and devoid of compassion for the people."—The probability is that both have been really accused of hostility to the Christians, and failing to maintain order.

Our NEWCHWANG correspondent writes, on the 15th August:—"H.M.S. *Lapwing* arrived last night, but is off again to-day to Tientsin, without much communication, as cholera has visited the shipping. So far only 4 or 5 deaths have occurred, and not one foreign resident has been attacked. The natives have had an awful "scare" during the last ten days. Now, there is much less sickness, but the commander of the *Lapwing* is quite right not to risk a calamity, however much we may regret his departure.—The *Adela* was sold for Tls. 3,200, a magnificent price for her—to be broken up or not, we know not."

The *FOOCHOW Herald* says all accounts concur in pronouncing the late gale to have been one of the most severe—short of a cyclone—ever experienced on the China coast. At the Pescadores, where a number of vessels found refuge, the barometer was as low at one time as 29.19. Very few casualties, however, are reported.—During the gale a number of native vessels went ashore near Quang-tao. Some of these have since been repaired, but the bulk are regarded as a total loss. It is stated that, with few exceptions, the crews managed to escape.—The Customs Revenue cruiser *Fei Hoo* arrived in port on the 11th, having left Amoy on the 1st instant. After leaving that port the *Fei Hoo* encountered very bad weather—compelling her, we understand, to anchor at the Pescadores until the 9th instant. While at that place, several cases of cholera occurred on board, one of which terminated fatally in about twelve hours, but we are glad to learn that no further cases have been reported.—The *Market Report* says the activity noticed last week in the tea market has continued. A large proportion of the settlements have been of the common and good common kinds, which have ruled firm with an upward tendency. There is still a steady demand for any teas with flavor and quality. Medium grades are eagerly competed for, and purchases shew a further slight advance. These may now be quoted fully two taels higher than a fortnight ago. Settlements 24.189 chests at Tls. 5 a Tls. 24½ (short).

From a paragraph of SWATOW news which we reprint from the *China Mail*, it will be seen that \$45,000 have been recovered and brought in from the wreck of the *Japan*, and that it is hoped shortly to recover the whole of the treasure.

We are glad to learn from JAPAN papers that there really is a likelihood of an early termination to the civil war. A Kagosima letter, of the 3rd August, says the rebel Generals Saigo and Kirino were at Nobeoka, where they intended to try their final battle; and the *Cosmopolitan Press* says a telegram, dated the 12th, declares the Imperialists had advanced and defeated their opponents at this spot.—At any rate, Nagasaki papers seem persuaded that the war is virtually over.

Editorial Selections.**THE NEW REGULATIONS FOR THE CALLING
PLACES ON THE YANGTZE.**

So little alacrity has been shown about taking advantage of the proposed concessions of the Chefoo Convention, regarding the newly opened ports, that we may safely conclude that the permission to land goods at the calling stations on the Yangtze, girt round as it is with impracticable stipulations, will be but sparingly availed of. Not that we ignore the advantage to be derived, more especially to the Chinese shipper, by a proper opening of the whole of the Yangtze; but that in the proposed regulations we see the old tendency still further developed, of raising up a wall of separation between natives and foreigners, and by making concessions to the latter appear as detrimental to the interests of the former. It is many years since Mr. Dick, then Commissioner of Customs at Shanghai, showed how impossible it was to work a system founded on the nationality of the supposed ownership of goods. For a little time, a spark of the true conception of legitimate trade seemed to have been awakened in the gloomy atmosphere of Peking; but only to be quenched again under a revival of the old, and as we thought fairly exploded, system of declarations. The notification in last Monday's paper shows how possible it is, while nominally granting a concession, to raise still more obstructions in the way of intercourse than at present exist. The great want of the Yangtze valley, as, indeed, of all China, has been ever the impossibility of conveying produce to a market. One of the finest rivers in the world flows through a wide valley, whose fertility, if not of the highest character, is certainly above the average. For nearly twenty years have steamers been passing up and down this river, yet for all the benefit they have proved to the inhabitants, they might as well have been phantom ships. At last we are told that the ports of the river are to be opened, and we are greeted with a proclamation as to the conditions. Some five years ago a scarcity occurred in the South of China. The rice fields along the Yangtze had produced an abundant crop of rice, but it was of little avail. So impossible was it to carry the grain to the districts where it was required, that thousands of acres covered with rice remained unreaped, and the grain naturally rotted in the ear. Yet all this while steamer after steamer passed by, but brought little relief to the famine-stricken peasant in the South, or to his fellow in the North whose plenty brought him little less discomfort than fell to the lot of the other. Now, here is a practical case; and let us see if either is any better off under the new system. First, none but foreigners can apply for passes for export; second, they must be prepared to take an oath that the goods are their own

private property; thirdly, they are not to live or have any business premises at the shipping places! This is called affording facility for trade! In fact, it will require considerable ingenuity to discover how it will be possible to carry on trade of any sort whatever. So much ingenuity that we may fairly surmise that no one will take the trouble of endeavouring to do any business where each transaction will of necessity compel him to place himself in a false position. In former times, it was held that the ship and the goods were proof sufficient to protect the trader against undue taxation, but this salutary condition has been done away with, and a host of obstructions placed in the way. It is difficult to imagine any practical means by which a person could consign foreign goods to one of the calling stations on the river, and it is almost equally difficult to see how he can obtain goods for export. So far as the native is concerned, he has absolutely no redress, and is more at the mercy of the mandarins than ever. On the whole, while practically we can conceive little benefit to be derived by either native or foreign trade from the proposed ports of call, under regulations which almost seem to have been invented for the express purpose of hindrance—we see a beginning made for many obstructive regulations to trade generally, which, if found effective in the one case, will not fail to be applied, if permitted by the apathy of foreign representatives, in other quarters.

LEGAL CONSULS.

RUMOURS are still prevalent that the Home Government seriously contemplate the amalgamation of the offices of Judge of the Supreme Court and Consul. That some few circumstances should seem to point to the advisability of this step, we are not prepared to deny, but we imagine we are justified in regarding it as a retrogressive step, and little likely to promote our position in China. Doubtless, one of the reasons which has been brought forward is the supposed inconsistency with treaty stipulations, of appointing a Judge to do the work stipulated for a Consul; and on which so many absurd claims have been raised, and little less absurd decisions given. This, however, is a question of detail easily amended, and is already indeed to some extent set right by the Chefoo Convention. The object intended to be sought was the impartial administration of justice where British subjects were concerned; and no one acquainted with the rules of English law can fail to perceive how much more effectually such could be looked for under the strict rules of an English Law Court, than under the semi-legal, semi-diplomatic working of a Consular tribunal. And herein lies the gist of the matter. The common law of England may not be the most supremely

wise of all human inventions, yet no one can deny that the doctrine of the irremovability of Judges has resulted in a body of decisions which, for careful and conscientious justice, place the British judicature at the head of all legal institutions. This practical immovability during good behaviour, which is the distinguishing feature of the judicial rank, cannot be carried out as regards the Consular service. A Consul may be the best of men, thoroughly conversant with the duties and responsibility of his office, and yet from some personal defect, or mere accident of circumstances, he may be an unfit officer in any particular post. His duty is to obey orders, not to deliver the law; and the two are so incompatible that a successful amalgamation of the two functions must be very exceptional. On the one hand, we do not require Consuls, as a general rule, to lay down hard and fast rules for international intercourse. Their functions are, in a great measure, to protect English interests, to remove difficulties, and, generally speaking, by courteous speaking and diplomatic conduct, to prevent affairs running into a condition from which they may need the good offices of the Judge to disentangle them. On the other hand, it is the Judge's province to decide truly and legally in such cases as come before him. If A's ship collides with B's, he has simply to examine into the facts of the case and give his decision, according to the law in such matters made and provided. If C's gun goes off and kills D, the probable effect in diplomatic intercourse is not to be the ground of decision, but the simple case how far C was acting legally, or to what extent his act was a criminal one. Again, a Minister may stoop to ask advice of a Consul, and the latter in his reply will state all the eventualities of the case in its various bearings, and more especially its aspect as a matter of policy good or bad. This is, however, outside the functions of the Judge. With him the legal interpretation is paramount. He may be consulted as to how far any proposed measure is in consonance with treaties or international rules, or whether any particular case or action is contrary to, or consistent with, treaty obligations. In such matters it will be the Minister's duty to act on his decision, or on grave reasons shown to set it aside; but any reference to policy in such a decision would be outside the Judge's province, and would properly be considered an impertinence, by any Minister fit for his post. Now, there will always be the danger of these two separate positions of Judge and Consul becoming confounded if the offices are joined. A man, however good he may be, will be apt to forget when he is exactly Consul and when he is simply Judge. He will be tempted to flavour justice with diplomacy, and to look rather at the probable effects of his decision than its legal consistency; or, on the other

hand, to raise legal forms and legal technicalities around an affair which is essentially a matter of policy. Few men's minds are so evenly balanced that they can pass at once from one position to another, and, what is even more difficult, re-pass to the former without leaving any trace in their conduct or decisions, of the contrary conditions. We have no reason to believe that the Home Government have such a man at their disposal, and even if they had, it is in the last degree unlikely that they could continually supply the want. Under the circumstances, the division, which was wisely made, would be wisely continued; law and diplomacy are bad companions; and we should prefer our sweets unflavoured with physic, and our physic unalloyed with lollipops.

KWOH SUNG-TAO'S MEMORIAL ON OPIUM.

THE members of the English Anti-Opium Association may very well take a lesson from Kwoh Sung-tao's memorial which we printed yesterday. The Chinese Ambassador makes no impracticable suggestions about stopping the export from India, nor even attempting to prohibit the entry of the drug into China. He knows perfectly well that more opium is manufactured within the country itself than is brought to it by sea; and goes to the root of the matter in suggesting an attempt to reform the popular taste which at present demands to be supplied. There is not, throughout the memorial, one word of the denunciation of foreign vendors of the drug in which his countrymen are prone to indulge. On the contrary, it is upon his countrymen, and more especially upon the ruling classes, that he saddles the responsibility for the spread of the vice. "Since the period (A. D. 1839) in the reign of Tao Kwang, when the use of opium was declared a criminal offence, and endeavours were made to impose a stringent interdict upon the practice, the official class has failed to carry out this enactment as the law requires; and so far as concerns the persons holding official situations, candidates for the government examinations, and the soldiery—who, on the resolution being taken in the year 1859 to rescind the interdict, were still forbidden to smoke the drug—the restriction has been regarded as a mere form of words, and a state of ignorance of any restriction being in force has continued to prevail." That the removal of the previous restrictions upon the import of the drug may have been in some measure responsible for the spread of opium-smoking, is very possible; but His Excellency shows clearly that the exclusive responsibility which the Anti-Opium Association would fix upon the Indian Government is altogether imaginary. It was found necessary, at Peking, to issue an interdict against opium no less than a century and a half ago—long before any appreciable quantity was being brought

from India. It may be true, as he declares, that that prohibition was then effectual; that "thanks to the vigour and wisdom of the administration and the system of public instruction, together with the respect shewn by the official class for the duties of their position, the laws were obeyed among the masses in fear and trembling, and none made bold to become smokers of the drug." But there must obviously have been a tendency to misuse what was recognised as a useful medicine, or the interdict would not have been necessary. And it is admitted that, in the earlier years of the Emperor Tao Kwang (beginning A.D., 1821), the practice had become widely prevalent.—Nor is it attempted to hold foreigners responsible for this result. No doubt a considerable trade in opium was growing up about this time, at Canton; but it is to the opium grown in China, and not to that imported, that Kwoh Sung-tao points as the chief source of supply. "Cultivation having been introduced from India into Yunnan, the Yunnan opium came into use; from this it extended to Szech'wan; a further step introduced it into Kansuh; and by successive stages it spread into Kweichow, Shensi, and Shansi." There is, indeed, now scarcely a province in the Empire where the poppy is not cultivated; and if the Anti-Opium Association could have their will of stopping the Indian supply, hardly a single opium-smoker would be hindered; the local cultivation would simply be stimulated correspondingly.

The memorialist advises, therefore, that an attempt be made to eradicate the vice by prohibitive measures at home. He would allow three years within which the official classes and literati shall break off the habit, under penalty of deprivation of rank and degrees, and the infliction of other disabilities which he enumerates. A gradual extinction of the cultivation by means of these reformed officials is then to be brought about; and finally, within twenty years, the people generally are to be weaned by the influence of exhortation and good example, from the injurious habit. This scheme might perhaps be partially practicable in the hands of a strong and earnest Government, which could really control its officers; but even then it would involve an extreme degree of personal interference. A Government order that all its employés should cease to smoke tobacco would be resented, in Europe, as an outrageous interference with the liberty of the subject, and would be simply impossible of execution. The popular idea of the extent of the Imperial prerogative in China may be more elastic; but the power of carrying such an order into execution is scarcely greater; and, though the abolition of opium-smoking is a fashionable doctrine, the attempt to put the theory into practice would be far from meeting the same support that would be accorded on paper to the theory.

It is quite likely that the vice may be gradually reduced in China, as Kwoh Sung-tao desires, by making it to be considered disgraceful; just as the practice of drinking too much wine after dinner has come to be considered ungentlemanly in England, where fifty years ago it was part of the programme. But we fear the problem will scarcely be worked out within the limited period that the Ambassador would allot for the experiment.

EARLY JAPANESE INVASIONS OF CHINA.

VERY few of us ever trouble to carry back our thoughts to the scenes that took place in the city of Shanghai before foreigners landed here. To us the interesting period begins with the arrival of Dr. Gutzlaff and the first instalment of foreigners in 1832. Yet there were heroes before Agamemnon. Exciting events had taken place in Shanghai long before the quiet of the dark-haired nation was disturbed by the intrusive appearance of the obnoxious European. We recall one occasion which is apt to slip from the memory—when the noise of battle resounded somewhere hard by the spot on which the Woosung Railway Station now stands. In the reign of our Henry VIII, according to Chinese reckoning "in the twenty-first year of Kia-tsing" A.D. 1543, the peaceful dwellers in Shanghai were disturbed by a very formidable apparition. The Japanese landed at Paou-shan, ten miles north of Shanghai, and began plundering the people, and devastating the fields. They came like a sudden irruption of locusts on the land. Fear seized all the peaceful inhabitants, and they fled right and left—anywhere to escape from the formidable swordsmen. The commander at Woosung rallied as many men as he could contrive to muster round his standard, and prepared to repel the foe, but his troops were scattered and he himself killed. Another general, named Tai-tsang, took the field, but he was defeated. The invading force waxed bolder and bolder, and now proceeded at once to come up to Shanghai, keeping north of the Woosung river. They spread desolation wherever they came, and captured several junks richly laden. It seems pretty clear that the Chinese must have been, owing to the corruption of the officials, in their usual state of unpreparedness and inefficiency for this piratical horde, which could not have been numerous and could never have defeated army after army. One quite understands how a sudden descent of corsairs like that of the Algerines on Baltimore in Ireland, in 1631, may create panic, and how a vast booty may be seized by the invaders; but in all these cases the pirate swoops suddenly on his prey, secures it, and disappears before the plundered can recover their senses. In the case before us, the searovers absolutely defeated four Imperial armies. The mandarins were the first

to run away, leaving their yamens to be plundered. The Japanese were reinforced, and three hundred junks out-poured their warlike crews on the coast.

The Chinese at last became really alarmed and sent strong bodies of men from Kiang-yeh, but it was too late. The men from the second fleet had landed, and the work of pillage and havoc was completed. The Japanese exhibited that savage fury in battle, which characterizes the troops of Saigo-to-day. They slaughtered all who opposed them. The houses were sacked and gutted. Then in the very wantonness of war, they set the city on fire, and it was burnt to the ground. Those of us who have seen the cities, or rather the sites of cities, after the tide of the Taiping rebellion swept over this province, can form an idea of the condition of the now flourishing city of Shanghai, when the Japanese ravagers sailed away. They had left their mark, and to this day legends of the terrible visitors linger in the odes that answer to our ballad literature, and are read and recited by the natives. It is strange to read these stories of hostile Japanese visitations now, when, as far as we can see, there is little chance of other than peaceful relations ever subsisting between the two nations. The Japanese who visit Shanghai mostly come to start curio shops, and depend more on foreigners than on the natives for custom. The effect of European intercourse has been to lessen the width of the breach that has so long existed between the Island Empire and the Middle Kingdom. It was British intervention that stopped the wasting war which seemed imminent at the time of the Formosa difficulty; and it is from Japan that China is learning many useful lessons in Western civilization. Her own internal troubles will keep Japan from raids like that of 1543 on the coasts of her neighbour, and the story we have revived is only useful as a vivid instance of the contrast between the Past and the Present.

REVIEW.

The Mikado's Empire, by WILLIAM ELLIOT GRIFFIS, A.M., late of the Imperial University of Tokio, Japan. New York: Harper & Brothers. 1876.

This book, though by no means free from faults, is the most readable work we have yet seen on Japan. The writer resided, as he tells us, in Dai Nippon "during four of the most pregnant years of the nation's history," and as one of the Professors in the Imperial University had many opportunities of acquiring information. He observed, he read, he consulted books and men with unflagging industry, and he has given us the results of his active sojourn in a bulky but very interesting volume.

The author opens with a chapter which he calls somewhat conceitedly "the background," which is an account of the geographical features of Japan. It is carefully and spiritedly written, but is distinguished by a certain pomposity of diction which jars upon the ear and offends the taste. Take an example—

"The aspects of nature in Japan, as in most volcanic countries, comprise a variety of

savage hideousness, appalling destructiveness, and almost heavenly beauty. From the mountains burst volcanic eruptions; from the land come tremblings; from the ocean rises the tidal wave; over it blows the cyclone. Floods of rain in summer, and autumn give rise to inundations and landslides.

"During three months of the year the inevitable dreaded typhoon may be expected, as the invisible agent of hideous ruin. Along the coast the winds and currents are very variable. Sunken and emerging rocks line the shore. All these make the dark side of nature to cloud the imagination of man, and to create the nightmare of superstition. But Nature's glory outshines her temporary gloom, and in presence of her cheering smiles the past terrors are soon forgotten. The pomp of vegetation, the splendor of the landscape, and the heavenly gentleness of air and climate come to soothe and make vivacious the spirit of man."

Surely, this is rather too florid in style, and while Mr. Griffis was engaged on so fine a piece of writing he might have written "landslip" instead of "landslide" and "animate" instead of "make vivacious." This is an instance of the writer's defects. Blemishes like this occur on every other page, and as the matter of the book is excellent these faults of manner are all the more irritating.

After having thus shown us the scene on which his actors are to figure, we have a chapter on the materials of history, and then we begin at once with the mythology, and go to work in orthodox fashion. We commend to our readers the very beautiful sun myth given at pages 45-49, which, however, is too long to extract at length, and would be spoiled if abridged.

The chapters on Japanese authentic history are very well done. All those interested in the affairs of our island neighbour should read them, as they throw much light upon the present state of the country. The following passage, for instance, contains a truth that it is absolutely necessary to bear in mind if we would understand recent events. It is the opening chapter on the Japanese Wars of the Roses, the struggle of rival dynasties, known as the "war of the chrysanthemums."

"The dynasty of the Imperial rulers of Japan is the oldest in the world. No other family line extends so far back into the remote ages as the nameless family of Mikados. Disdaining to have a family name, claiming descent not from mortals, but from the heavenly Gods, the Imperial house of the Kingdom of the Rising Sun occupies a throne which no plebeian has ever attempted to usurp. Throughout all the vicissitudes of the Imperial line, in plenitude of power or abasement of poverty, its members deposed or set up at the pleasure of the upstart, or the political robber, the throne itself has remained unshaken. Unclean hands have not been laid upon the Ark itself. As in the procession of life on the globe the individual perishes, the species lives on, though individual Mikados have been dethroned, insulted, or exiled, the prestige of the line has never suffered. The loyalty or allegiance of the people has never swerved. The soldier who would begin revolution, or who lusted for power, would make the Mikado his tool; but, however transcendent his genius and abilities, he never attempted to write himself Mikado. No Japanese Caesar ever had his Brutus, nor Charles his Cromwell, nor George his Washington. Not even as in China did one dynasty of alien blood overthrow another and reign in the stead of a destroyed family. Such events are unknown in Japanese annals. The student of this people and their unique history can never understand them or their national life unless he measures the mightiness of the force, and recognizes the place of the throne and the Mikado in the minds and hearts of his people."

In a later chapter on "The recent Revelations in Japan," there is a very thorough familiarity exhibited with the main features of the transactions of the past five years. Mr. Griffis grasps thoroughly the important fact which must constantly be borne in

mind by all who would take the first step towards the comprehension of Japanese politics, viz., that the same men now govern Japan who governed it in the days of feudalism. He says:—

"Japanese feudalism began nearly eight centuries ago, and existed until within the year 1871. It was not a tower of strength in its last days. Long before its fall, it was an empty shell and a colossal sham. Feudalism is only alive and vigorous when the leaders are men of brain and action. Of all the Daimios there were not ten of any personal importance. They were amiable nobodies, great only in stomach or silk robes. Many were sensualists, drunkards, or titled fools. The real power in each clan lay in the hands of able men of inferior rank who ruled their masters. These are now the men who compose the present Government of Japan."

And these are the men whom the old servants of the long descended Daimios are now rebelling against. It is very easy to understand how a serf who had heard all his life of the greatness, and power, and hereditary—we had almost written divine right—of the nobles would obey them with fear and trembling, even though they oppressed him to the dust, but the vassal would assume a very different attitude when the authority was claimed by a man without lineage. An English peasant in the fifteenth century would have submitted cheerfully to the almost despotic sway of a Warwick or a Norfolk, but would have resented with indignation any attempts at oppression from a Rivers or a Dorset.

The second part of the work is occupied with the author's personal experiences, observations and studies. The result of a very diligent employment of the last five years. The chapters on life in a Japanese house,—folk lore and fireside stories, and the accounts of the sights and sounds which greet the traveller in Tokio, as Mr. Griffis will call Yedo, are well worth reading. We give an absurd story which is a household word in Japan:—

"A very economical old fellow named Kisaburo, once took lodgings near a shop to which the elite of the epicures of Yedo resorted daily for the delicacy of eels fried in soy. The appetizing odour was wafted into his quarters, and Kisaburo, being a man of strong imagination, daily enjoyed his frugal meal of boiled rice by his palate, and the savory smoke of eels through his olfactories, and thus saved the usual expense of fish and vegetables. The eel-frier, on discovering this, made up his mind to charge his stingy neighbour for the smell of his eels, and paid him a visit with his bill made out. Kisaburo taking it in good humour, called his wife who brought out the cash box. After jingling the bag of money, he touched it on the bill, and replacing it in the box under lock, ordered his wife to return it to its place. The eel man, amazed at such financiering, cried out, "Well, are you not going to pay me?" "Oh no!" said Kisaburo, "you have charged me for the smell of your eels; I have paid you back with the sound of my money."

The charming little volume entitled "Our Neighbourhood," which we reviewed in these columns some two years ago, presents so bright and varied a series of photographs of the inner life of the Japanese people, that we find even Mr. Griffis' clever sketches dull by comparison. He has, however, availed himself of his opportunities, and there are some capital stories in his pages. It is amusing *inter alia* to learn that in the Yokohama dialect the word for sailor is *dammuraisa hito* ("d—n-your-eyes" man).

We must not omit to mention that the "Mikado's Empire" is well printed and copiously illustrated. Some of the woodcuts have appeared before in Sir Rutherford Alcock's volumes, but it is always pleasant to see copies of the graphic and characteristic sketches of the inimitable Hokusai, the Hogarth of Japan, many of whose pictures enrich these agreeable pages.

Outports.

TIENTSIN.

It is the absolute dearth of news of any sort whatever, so far as I have been able to hear, that has prevented me writing for so long.

The temperature moderated somewhat after the showers last reported, and it has been cooler ever since. The heat of the summer seems to be broken, but the Chinese are fearing a cessation of heavy growing showers as well. If this fear be realized, the late crops, such as beans and cabbage, must be light. Millet already in head, which was the condition of the greater part of it when the last rain fell here, was benefited but very little by it; and some of the Chinese say that a more trying winter than the last is before us. Much the same report comes from all directions. We are, however, not yet in possession of sufficient data to speak with certainty in regard to the present or the prospective condition of the crops, and the probable necessities of the people over any considerable extent of territory; but so far as we have any information, it affords anything but a pleasant outlook. In all this region, the millet, large and small, is not likely to yield over, if up to, half a crop. Up to within six weeks ago, there had been no rain in the region of Tai-yuen-fu, Shansi, and no millet or maize could be planted. Since then there may have been abundant rain, but I have no information.

I have heard that the Tsung-li Yamén has become alarmed at the prospect, and that measures for relief are in progress. But I know of no facts bearing on this rumour.

This has been a very trying season. In the foreign community there has been a large amount of illness, with only three fatal cases, however, among the residents. The mortality among the Chinese has been very great; but there has been an improvement in health since the change in the mercury.

I hear you are having rain in abundance in Shanghai. Can't you ship us a little!

17th August.

CHEFOO.

The long looked for race between the crack pulling boats of H.M.S. *Fly* and the U.S. sloop of war *Monocacy*, came off on Monday afternoon. Betting had been 5 to 1 in favor of the American boat, but before the event took place the odds had diminished to 5 to 4 with few takers. The English boat is a six-oared gig, but as the Americans entered a twelve-oared cutter, it was necessary to double bank the gig, and row her with twelve oars, which rather overweighed her and only allowed the men to handle shorter oars than usual. Still, in smooth water, the English crew hoped to overcome these difficulties, and the contest was accepted on these terms. The stakes were \$260 a side, and with the wagers laid it is said that over \$1,000 changed hands. Monday was the day fixed for the race, and on that day as the harbour was visited with a strong breeze from N.W. with a heavy sea on, it was felt that the advantage would be on the American side. Their boat being larger and less liable to ship water, it was thought they would make the best weather of it, especially as the English boat on that morning had returned from her final trial row in the port, with so much water in her that the men had it nearly up to their knees. The wind moderated a little in the afternoon, but there was still a nasty lumpy sea on.—At five o'clock "give way" was the word, and the two boats started for their five miles contest. The English boat seemed

to be lost in the foam and spray, which came over her bows as she was lifted through the water by the determined oarsmen, but she kept her head well to the waves, and in less than no time took the lead of the American boat, which did not get "weigh on" as soon as might have been expected. The race across the harbour was one continued lead for the *Fly's*, and they kept up 55 strokes a minute during the whole course. The Americans pulled strongly also, but the English boat rounded the buoy three minutes before her competitor, and pulled away from the cutter. When nearing the flagship the two foremost oars of the English boat were quietly laid in, and the two "bows" planted a blue flag with a yellow cock painted on it over the stem of the boat, and resuming their oars, took the stroke again, and the crew then made short work of the rest of the course, and came in winners by about 3 minutes.—The vessels in harbour cheered the winning crew as they passed near them, and the blue jackets of the "*Fly*" gave their victorious comrades a thorough old British hurrah as they came within hail. The community of Chefoo and the visitors here at present witnessed the race from the hill, and enthusiastically showed their admiration at the plucky way the "*Fly's*" had pulled under such adverse circumstances.

15th August.

NINGPO.

The only news, here, is of an accident to the yacht *Heron*, which the lowdah succeeded in some incomprehensible way in running on Dumb Island, about 4 miles outside Chinhai. The *Heron* had been very kindly lent by Colonel Cooke to take a party of ladies and children to Pootoo, whose trip was rather summarily stopped by the misadventure. The yacht was at once beached; and the passengers landed and passed some four or five hours on the rocks before they were taken off in a passing pilot boat. The fishing boats were willing to take them, but were also anxious to squeeze, when the chance arrival of the pilot boat put an end to the difficulty. They all got back to Ningpo about 11 o'clock last night. The *Heron*, I am glad to hear, is very little injured, and can easily be repaired.

We have had much rain and thunder, but, I am glad to say, no sickness.

22nd August.

SWATOW.

By the arrival of the steamer *Douglas* we hear from Swatow that the little *Sea Gull* had brought in from the wreck of the *Japan*, on her last two trips, no less than \$45,000, and that the salvors were in hopes that the whole of the treasure would soon be recovered, provided the fine weather continues.

The port of Swatow seems to be a favourite base of operations for salvaging work, to judge from the present undertakings under way. The *Camoës* (Captain Tucker), the departure of which from Hongkong we noticed some time since, is now diligently working at the wreck of the *Mazeppa*, one of Jardine's opium schooners which sank some twenty years ago off the Cape. It is rumoured that the vessel has been found, and, but for the profound mystery which ever surrounds such diving down into the deep for treasure, the whisperings are regarded as well founded. The old *Mazeppa*, however, has quietly settled down into the mud since she retired from the vulgar gaze; and although we wish Captain Tucker every success in his enterprise, it must be admitted that he will have great difficulties to contend with, in view of the long period which has elapsed since the vessel took the mud. There is a possibility also that the

Chinese may have had some pickings from this vessel years ago, ere she became embedded, as there are some very good divers among the fishermen who would naturally use every effort to get at such a prize as hidden treasure in hard dollars.

Some attention appears also to be directed at present towards the wreck of the steamer *Glengyle*. This fine vessel, as many of our readers will remember, was lost on the Island of Namoa some two or three years ago. The wreck was sold here a short time since for \$600, and as there is some treasure on board of her, the enterprising purchaser may get a good outturn for his purchase-money.—*China Mail*.

HONGKONG.

The report of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company shows a net profit on the half-year's working of \$33,711, besides \$10,744 brought forward from last account; giving, after deductions, \$39,706 available for distribution.—The Directors recommend the appropriation of \$25,000 in reduction of the debt upon the Company's property, and the carrying of \$14,706 to new account.

It is notified in the *Hongkong Government Gazette* that Colonel Bassano, C.B., has assumed the command of the troops, on the departure of His Excellency Major-General the Honourable Sir Francis Colborne, K.C.B., and was sworn in as a Member of the Executive Council, on the 8th instant.

The *China Mail* is sorry to hear that Lieut.-Commander Needham, at present in command of H.M.S. *Hart*, has met with a serious accident. The unfortunate gentleman had been dining at the Peak with Commodore Watson, and was returning in company with Commander Garbett and Dr. Popham. The three gentlemen started running down the hill, when Mr. Needham tripped and fell over the side of the road on to the jagged rocks. Assistance was at once procured and he was conveyed to the Naval Hospital, where he lies in a dangerous condition.—The O. & S. N. Co.'s steamship *Oceanic* has been towed round to the Aberdeen Dock for the purpose of having her new propeller fitted.—The four South Sea Island women picked up by a French brig on a canoe, bottom up, near the Pellew Islands, return again to their native land by the steamship *Bowen*.

The *Daily Press* says the Board of Examiners, appointed by the Governor to hold the competitive examination for a third clerkship in the Magistrate's Office, report that, after a careful examination of the papers of the eleven candidates, they are unable to recommend any of them for the post, and suggest that the limit of age should be altered to between 20 and 35 instead of between 26 and 28, and that the vacancy should be once more advertised. A minute by the Governor states that though he is somewhat disappointed at the failure of the candidates on this occasion, he is confident some of them will succeed on future occasions, and he shall continue to dispose of whatever appointments may be in his gift by the system of open competition, believing that the best officers can thus be obtained, and that these public examinations will test and encourage the progress of education in the colony. In compliance with the suggestion of the Examiners, a notification appears in the *Gazette* that a second examination will be held on the 28th instant, when the limits of age for candidates will be from 16 to 35.—The Macao steamer *White Cloud*, on her arrival on the 14th, reported a sailing vessel in the offing, partly dismasted, making for Hongkong. She was under the lee of a large island with all sail possible set.—The *Mail* says the harbour presents quite a lively and business-like appearance, there being no fewer than 107 sailing vessels and 19 steamers in the Bay—not to mention the eight or nine men-of-war ships

at their usual anchorage. Seldom has there been so many ships at one time lying at the port.

CANTON.

The weavers of Fatshan are now on strike in consequence of the employers refusing to accede to their demand for increase of wages.—News of a careless accident in firing a salute reaches us from Canton. As the Commissioner of Examination was returning from his tour of literary examinations in the upper districts, a salute was fired from the *lekin* station at Heong Loo Pass, but one of the guns happened to be loaded and the ball struck a guard-boat moored off the station; killing the *wei-yuen* in charge of her instantly.—*China Mail*.

The squeezes imposed on the boat people at the Wai Chow *lekin* station have led to a block in the public business. The Taotai of the prefecture had his official dispatches delayed for three weeks. These dispatches, it would appear, are sent by water, but owing to the exorbitant imposts levied upon them all the boats and junks stopped sailing for Canton, and no means of conveyance could be found. The Taotai's intervention in the matter has proved successful at last, however, and the boat people have now resumed work. It would appear that the system of official squeezing sometimes has unlooked for effects, and little incidents of this kind may have some slight effect in demonstrating to the Celestial mind that the policy is not one of unmitigated advantage.—The 20th inst. is the Empress Dowager's birthday, and court dress will be worn by officials from the 17th to the 23rd. The usual ceremony for paying respect to the Emperor will take place on the latter date in the Man Sui (or Thousand Years') Temple.—At a meeting of the Canton Missionary conference, held in Canton on the 8th inst., a series of resolutions were adopted expressing the sorrow of the members at the death of the Rev. C. F. Preston, and their appreciation of his character and abilities.—*Daily Press*.

13th August.

NAGASAKI.

Nagasaki papers seem satisfied that the rebels are on their last legs, and that a speedy termination of the war may be expected. The *Rising Sun* says the close of the campaign is so far drawing nigh that the War Department are now returning supplies of army stores to Kobe, as not likely to be further required at Nagasaki. The *Hiroshima Maru* left on the 17th with several hundred packages of material for Kobe, and a number of policemen—about 150—also went up in her. The *Sun* is also informed that in a few days the officers of the different departments of the Army and Navy, on temporary duty here, will be transferred to Kobe.—It appears that some shells which had been taken from the rebels have been forwarded to Nagasaki, and were placed in a magazine at Ofunagura on the Tokitsu road. On Monday last the officer in charge was curious enough to wish to examine the contents of one of them, and in spite of the protestations of his comrades he removed the cap of a fuse during their absence, and while manipulating the contents a severe explosion occurred, killing him on the spot and seriously injuring two coolies who happened to be present. Considerable consternation prevailed in the neighbourhood for some time.—The same paper understands that the U.S.S. *Kearsarge* has been ordered to proceed at once to the Boston Naval Yard via Suez Canal, and may be expected at Nagasaki on the way early in September. On the 17th, U.S.S. *Monocacy* arrived from Shanghai, and H.M.S. *Sylvia* from Corea.—Those wise in the matter of weather

amongst the Japanese assert that Nagasaki is not to escape a typhoon this year, and have so exactly calculated its advent as to be able to predict that at or about the full moon we are to expect it.

The *Rising Sun* says H.M.S. *Lily*, which left on the 29th ult. in search of the O. & O.'s steam-ship *Oceanic*, returned to harbour on Monday evening last. Finding no trace of the missing vessel, and learning from the light-keeper at Sata-no Misaki that she had signalled she was going to Hongkong under sail, the *Lily* proceeded north with the hope of rendering assistance to the missing ships *Lauderdale* and *Eaglet*. She reached Corea, but having put into many likely harbours on the coast, the only vessel she saw was H.M.S. *Sylvia*, which reported such constant foggy weather since her arrival in that port that all attempts at surveying had proved futile. The temperature on the coast did not exceed 67°, and officers and men were alike glad to avail themselves of their warm clothing. As time goes on and no news is received of the still missing vessels, the *Lauderdale* and the *Eaglet*, the general belief is becoming uppermost that they have both foundered with all hands. On or about the 27th ult., one of the officers of the *Tokio Maru* while on watch is said to have noticed a lot of floating wreckage, but neglected to report it to the Captain till sometime afterwards, when it was too late to take any steps in investigating its character. H.M.S. *Lily* did not see anything of the kind in her search for these vessels about the Korean sea and coast.—On the arrival of H.M.S. *Midye*, with the English mail from Shanghai, the *Lily* at once proceeded to Hakodate with the Admiral's advices.—The U.S.S. *Alert* arrived on Tuesday last, and on the following day Commander Boyd assumed command. She has gone to the wreck of the *Roving Sailor*, to which vessel she is expected to be able to render some assistance.—The barque *Union* has been sold at Yokohama to the Mitsu Bishi Co. She was fortunate in weathering the gale that proved so disastrous to other vessels.

HIOGO.

The sickness on board the steamer *Glamis Castle*, by which the Captain, officers, and so many of the crew suffered, turned out to be a remittent fever, contracted probably at Saigon, but not contagious. The steamer left on the 10th for Shanghai, with as many of the crew as were sufficiently recovered—some other hands having been shipped in place of those still remaining under treatment.—Referring to a letter in the *Japan Mail*, in which mention was made of certain Korean wild animals, one was described as being "like the Kangaroo of Australia," the *News* says, this, if a fact, is a very interesting one. The latest authority we have at hand, published in 1868, says that "with the exception of one American and one Malayan genus, all known existing marsupials belong to Australia, Tasmania and New Guinea." The last place, therefore, in which one might expect to find a stray branch of the genus would be Corea, and should the statement of the Ogura Company turn out to be true, it will be a very curious fact in the geographical distribution of animals.—A 100 yards swimming race has been won by Mr. J. H. Gubbins. There were eight starters.—The sixth heat of the canoe handicap was won by Mr. Sini, in the *Rob Roy*. Sini having won three times, the prize becomes his property.

The only local news of interest in Hiogo papers relates to certain bad dollars which appear to be at present in circulation in Kobe, in large numbers. They are (says the *News*) "sun" dollars, and all, so far as we yet know, dated 1873 or 1874, followed by the letters H. M. They appear new, have what has been declared to be a

spurious "chop" on one side, and have during the past few days deceived many people. They are nine grains too light; defective in tone when rung (though not perhaps to the extent which might be expected from their real badness); in many, if not all cases, very imperfectly circular; and in most again, if not in all, the D of the "Libertad" on the cap is bad—generally either too faintly impressed or of rather smaller size and leaning over at too great an angle, as if the die cutter had hardly allowed himself room to complete the word. In our office may be seen, in four phials, the result of the reduction by similar acid of portions of a good dollar, of a Japanese five cent piece, of pure copper and of one of these bad dollars. The solution in the first two instances is a very pale green, in the case of the copper pure blue, and in the case of the bad dollar approaching so closely the dark colour of the copper solution as to show roughly how much of that metal is present. There can also be seen half of the particular bad dollar which was operated upon. It is much to be feared that many of these dollars have been taken lately by unwary persons before the fraud was detected, for it is already tolerably clear that the swindle has been conducted upon an extensive scale." We reprint this paragraph in full, as it is quite possible some of these coins may find their way to Shanghai.

The *Osaka Nippo* says the Mikado has given the Mitsu Bishi Company yen 4,000 for taking him to Yokohama in the *Hiroshima Maru*. Silver cups have been given to Iwasaki, the Director of that Company, and silk cloth and money to the persons on board.—Permission was given on the 8th for the establishment of a Hiogo National Bank. It is said that it will be opened in a few days.

YOKOHAMA.

The *Herald* believes it is correct in stating that the Mitsu Bishi Company have within a few weeks expended about a million dollars in the purchase of steamers to add to their already numerous fleet. So many of the Company's vessels have been taken up for the war, that its commercial operations have been seriously interfered with to the loss and inconvenience of the public. The maritime carrying trade of the country is on the increase, and the Company's boats are rapidly superseding the slow and risky native craft. For these reasons it became necessary to buy more steamers of large carrying capacity, high speed, and with comparatively limited consumption of coal; and now, when steamer property is much depressed, is a very favorable time to buy, which has been judiciously availed of, and several very fine, nearly new steamers, have been bought at prices greatly below their original cost. To the financial operations entailed by these purchases may probably be attributed a fall in *sat*, and a lowered foreign exchange.

Within the last two months the Mitsu Bishi Company have increased their fleet of vessels by the purchase of six steamers and one sailing vessel, viz., the steamers *Gadshill*, *Candia*, *Lotus*, *Massilia*, *Duna* and *Montgomeryshire*, and the barque *Union*. The transfer of all these has been completed, and the name of each vessel changed with the flag. All these vessels are in active employment, some down south, some in the trade between this port and Kobe, and one has resumed the communication with Hakodate, which has been so long interrupted on account of the steamers of that line having been withdrawn for Government service in the south. We shall not be surprised if the Company purchases even more steamers, as slowly but surely, to the benefit of all concerned, is the extensive coast trade of Japan falling into their hands, and so long as this business is as well conducted as at present, so long will they

deserve to retain the benefit of it. It is probable that the steamer *King Richard* may be added to the Company's fleet, but arrangements for her transfer are not yet completed.—Rear-Admiral Reynolds, in command of the Asiatic U.S. squadron, has left for home on sick leave. He went on board the *City of Peking* on Sunday afternoon, and on his barge leaving the *Tennessee* he was saluted with a discharge of fifteen guns from the flagship. On the 13th, as the *City of Peking* steamed out of the harbour, the salute was repeated.—General Van Buren, U.S. Consul-General at Yokohama, has also gone home on six months leave of absence. Mr. H. W. Denison will officiate for him during his absence.—The Italian corvette *Christoforo Colombo* was about to leave for Hakodate and Vladivostok.

The *Gazette* says from time to time intelligence of further damage wrought by the gale of the 26th instant, on the coasts of Japan, is received, and shows that the blow was felt with some degree of equality on the East coast. On the shores of Shimonoseki eight or ten junks, with an aggregate lading of 4,500 koku of rice and some other cargo, have been lost, together with two vessels of foreign construction. Thirty-seven sailors are said to have been drowned; and fourteen vessels besides those known to have been wrecked are missing and unaccounted for.—The same paper says troops are returning in large numbers from the seat of war. This very naturally may be taken to mean that the strife is coming to a close. In what way this desirable end is being consummated is not quite apparent; but it is certainly not with the subjection of the rebels. It is by no means unlikely that some compromise has been come to; as for instance that the rebels shall be unmolested in their return to their homes and occupations on the condition of their refraining from further warlike operations. This is only surmise of course; but it is the only surmise on which the return of the forces, with the war yet unfinished, can be explained.—The wreck of the American bark *Roving Sailor* has been sold for \$500.—The *Hochi Shimbun* says that all the foreign employes of the Kagoshima-ken have been transferred to the service of the Central Government, and that the latter have presented them each with the cost of their passage to Europe. This is certainly a polite way of discharging servants. There is probably more in the measure than meets the eye, a desire perhaps to show impartiality, and by the dismissal of others to excuse the suddenness with which the services of one valuable foreign servant were dispensed with in the same ken.—

The *Mail* has the following:—The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the total amount of money expended on the rebellion by the Okurasho up to the end of July, over and above the ordinary army expenditure, is 26,600,000 yen, or about £5,350,000 sterling. What the state of the country will be unless fighting shortly ceases, can only be faintly guessed at by those who reside in Japan and see the frightfully impoverished state of the agricultural classes and the general want and distress. The *Hochi Shimbun* reports that the Government contemplates making a further issue of 40,000,000 yen paper money, about £8,000,000 sterling, but though they must be sorely harassed, all well-wishers of the Government must hope that they will not have recourse to so ruinous a step. We have since seen in the columns of our contemporary, the *Echo du Japon*, a statement that this report is denied, but by whom, or in what native journal the contradiction has appeared, is not stated, neither have we been able to discover.—The same paper says that Shimadzu and his son, having returned to Kagoshima from Sakura-shima, have asked the Kencho for permission to make a donation of yen 10,000 to the poor.—The *Hochi Shimbun* says the money given to the poor in Kumamoto amounts to 50,000 yen.

The *Gazette* says it is not so much obstruction on the part of the Japanese Government to the emigration of their people to Australian territory, as the unwillingness of the people themselves to emigrate, which is likely to prevent the fruition of the scheme of the South Australian Government to induce the settlement in their land of Japanese colonists. This unwillingness would not be removed by a change of Government; nor indeed is it advisable that it should. At present, and for years to come, this country has plenty of occupation for her own population in the development of her own resources, many of which are as thoroughly latent at this day as are those of any of the Australian colonies, and can offer as large a field in their working and development as can be offered by any country of the world.

Peking Gazette.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

Aug. 1st.—(1) A Decree. Tsai Shên 載森 memorialises Us praying that he may be relieved of his duty, on the ground of chronic ill-health. Let Tsai Shên accordingly be relieved of his appointment to do duty as an Assistant Chamberlain.

(2) A decree based upon a memorial presented by the Censor Shên Hung, who has called attention to the visitations with which a number of the Provinces have been afflicted time and again, and has begged that the servants of the State throughout the Empire be commanded to devote their active energies to the task of good government. It is to be observed, hereupon, that with reference to the plague of locusts which has afflicted the provinces of Kiangsu and Nganhwei in the course of the present year, We have repeatedly enjoined upon the provincial high authorities that they should give orders to their subordinates to effect the capture of the flights. In the case of Fukhien and Kwangtung, which have suffered from disastrous floods, and of Shansi, which has been afflicted in even still greater measure by drought, Our commands have been laid upon the Provincial Governments to devise such measures as are requisite for the relief of distress. The Censor now represents that Hunan and Kwangsi have also suffered with floods, that Shensi and Kansuh have been afflicted with drought, that Shantung, Honan, and the metropolitan province have equally been visited by locust flights, and that a tempestuous wind has swept over Kiangsu and Chekiang, with such violence as to level dwelling-houses with the ground, and to cause the destruction of sailing-craft. The perusal of his memorial has profoundly affected Our sympathy. In the anxious regard which the Sovereign cherishes for the interests of the people, no case of suffering from natural calamity ever occurs without filling his mind by day and night with grief and care, and causing him to reflect without ceasing upon the better discharge of his duty. At this juncture, when visitations have followed each other so repeatedly, it is a duty manifestly incumbent upon all the officers of government, throughout the Empire, to aim at a just and loyal course of conduct, and to exert themselves in the task of remedying the evils that are endured. The Governors-General and Governors of all the provinces, who are invested with the viceregency of their respective territories, are bound in a still higher degree to use active efforts in guarding against blind adherence to routine, and to be energetic in effecting reform. For all suffering among the people it is their duty to feel sympathetic care; and fraudulent misrepresentation upon the part of official underlings they must at all times be ready to chastise, to the end that the principle

of supreme order may daily increase in vigour; thus enabling, as a natural consequence, the beneficent results of harmony [between the seen and the unseen powers] to be secured, and grievous visitations to be dissipated. Let the Provincial Governments report to Us the actual facts with reference to the degree of severity with which their several jurisdictions have been afflicted, and also the measures which should be instituted for relief, in order that Our anxious care may be assuaged.

(3) The Governor-General of the Two Hu provinces memorializes reporting the decision arrived at on the rehearing of an appeal case referred back from Peking. The appellant, Chang Ch'eng-hing, had alleged that certain individuals, named T'ang Ming-hwên and others, had caused the death of his relative Chang San-wan and three others, in consequence of a dispute about the felling of some trees at the family burying ground. The case goes back to the year 1861, when, owing to some uncertainty regarding the boundary between adjacent properties, a quarrel arose between members of the two families, and in a fight which ensued the four individuals whose deaths are complained of lost their lives. It is now found that the ringleaders of the affray have escaped beyond the reach of capture, the most guilty of the number being shewn to have died in 1866; but certain of the participants in the affair are sentenced to bastinadoing, which sentence, however, is remitted in virtue of the Act of Grace of 1875.

Aug. 2nd.—(1) A decree based upon a memorial from the Court of Censors, reporting that a complaint has been lodged by one Hu Tso-hwai, alleging an attempt made to set at naught the execution of the law by a fraudulent abuse of regulations. It appears that the complainant's father, Hu She-li, having been murdered by Chan K'i-lun (see *Gazette* of April 7th, 1876), and Chan K'i-lun having been sentenced to suffer death by strangulation after process of revision, a military officer named Wu Tung-shan instigated Chan Hwan-chang to come to Peking for the purpose of planning with T'ien Ming-king, an officer of the courier-post service, and others, an intrigue to effect the delivery of Chan K'i-lun from paying the penalty of his crime. Concurrently with this, the Censor T'eng K'ing-lin memorialized to the effect that, in cases where military officers are proved guilty of offences, the regulations allow representations to be made [of circumstances in their favour.] Chan Hwan-chang and another hereupon presented a false statement at the Board of Punishments and at the Magistracy of Hwang-nan, his native district, declaring that a member of Chan K'i-lun's family had lost his life in battle; whilst T'ien Ming-king and others went with a draught of the Censor's memorial to Chan K'i-lun's house to demand a sum of money. The statements thus advanced, involving, as they do, a conspiracy to defeat the sentence imposed in so serious a matter as a trial for a capital crime, and implicating a functionary whose prerogative it is to address the Throne, call for the most searching investigation. Let the Board of Punishments institute a stringent enquiry, not failing to elicit the actual truth. Let the Yamén of Gendarmerie, the Governor of Shun-t'ien Fu, the Police Censors, and the Governor-General of Chihli take measures conjointly for the apprehension of the two men Wu Hi-che and Chan Hwan-chang, who have taken to flight; and let the Censor T'eng K'ing-lin hold himself in readiness to appear when summoned to give evidence.

(2) A decree, removing from office, or compelling to retire from the public service, certain officials who have been denounced as incompetent by the Governor-General and Governor of Kwangtung. Ts'ung Ling, the Prefect of Lui-chow Fu, and Hwang Kwang-chow, Magistrate of Lo-ting Chow,

are declared to have abused the functions of their office by delays in the discharge of duty. The former is commanded to return to Canton to do duty; and the latter is compulsorily retired. Cheng Hiao-ju, District Magistrate of Ts'ing-yan, is similarly dealt with, as superannuated and chargeable with improper conduct; and an expectant Magistrate is stripped of his rank on the score of his coarse and violent disposition, which has excited public disapprobation.

(3 and 4) Memorials from the Governor-General and Governor of Fuhkien, reporting minor incidents of reform of military abuses in Formosa on the recent visit of the Governor, Ting Jih-chang, to the island.

Aug. 3rd.—(Court Circular.) Wén Kéh, newly appointed Governor of Shangtung, paid his respects on his arrival at Peking.

(1) The high authorities at Foochow memorialize reporting the arrival there of a Liu-ch'uan junk, with eight distressed mariners on board, who, on being examined through an interpreter, declare that they sailed from Peh-shan Fu on the 5th April for Pa-ch'ung Shan (in the Meisao-sima group), intending to fish for conger-eels, but were blown out to sea by a gale, and drifted with the current to San Sha, on the Chinese coast. Here the local authorities kindly supplied them with provisions, and sent them on to Ting-hai, where they arrived on the 16th April. From this place they were forwarded to Foochow. Having been taken charge of by the authorities, they will be supplied according to regulation, from the date of their arrival at Foochow, the 21st April, with one pint of rice and six cash in money per diem, until their embarkation. They will then be equipped with one month's provisions.

(2) The high authorities at Foochow solicit exemption from taxation on behalf of the rice which it is necessary to import from Kiangsu and Chehkiang, to meet the exigencies of the situation in Fuhkien, owing to the recent floods.—Granted by rescript.

(3) Ting Jih-chang, Governor of Fuhkien, memorializes reporting the receipt of a despatch from Wu Kwang-liang, the newly appointed Brigade-General in chief command of the East coast division of Formosa, stating that he had left Tai-wan Fu on the 27th May, to proceed by the road cut this year through the Heng-ch'un district to the East coast, where he intended to take up his head-quarters at Siu Ku Lwan 秀孤巒, with a view to instituting permanent measures in the shape of a Settlement of military colonists. The Governor had further issued instructions, he states, to the Taotai of Taiwan to take advantage of the favourable season for navigation, and to send a cargo of provisions to the spot by steamer. He has learnt, likewise, that Wu Tsan-ch'eng (the Commissioner in charge of the Foochow Arsenal), who has lately arrived in Formosa, intended to proceed on the 17th June to visit the East Coast, including Pi-lan and Siu Ku Lwan. This last-named place has been hitherto untrodden by the foot of man since the creation of the world, notwithstanding which Wu Tsan-ch'eng had scarcely arrived in Formosa when he boldly proceeded thither. He was a passenger from the Pescadores on board the same steamer with the Governor on the memorialist's recent return to Foochow; and in the midst of a storm at sea, when the Governor, clasping his pillow, was in the agonies of unintermitting sea-sickness, Wu Tsan-ch'eng remained pacing the deck and making observations around him with a quiet and unmoved countenance, as though at any ordinary moment. In vigour of both mind and body he excels the memorialist in a tenfold degree. He will hereafter, doubtless, himself report upon the measures instituted at the point referred to. The Taotai at Taiwan reports, as regards the troops at the capital of the

island, that they have been sufficiently industrious in their drill and target-practice; but that, unfortunately, a good deal of epidemic disease has prevailed since the summer set in. The Brigade-General of Taiwan, Chang K'i-kwang, whom the Governor had some time since directed to visit both the northern and southern divisions of his command, and to weed out unsparingly the useless members of the established forces, has now reported officially that he visited Feng-shan on the 7th June, and there dismissed 248 of the superannuated and weakly soldiers of the two battalions having their head-quarters there. The Governor observes hereupon that during his recent visit to Formosa he found the proportion of inefficient men to be 80 or 90 per cent. of the whole, and that in dismissing no more than 241 men of the force the Brigade-General has made a mere pretence of discharging his duty. Orders have now been issued to him with the warning that, if on his visit to the northern districts he does not set aside all personal considerations and act with full earnestness in reforming the condition of the troops, he shall be denounced in stringent terms to the Throne.—Rescript: It is noted.

(4) The Governor-General and Governor at Foochow memorialize reporting the selection of the present Prefect of Ting-chow Fu, Yen K'iai 延楷 by name, a Manchu, aged 49, holding the K'ü-jén degree, to succeed to the post of Prefect of Foochow. The usual declaration as to his character and antecedents is given.

Aug. 4th.—(1) A decree conferring appointments connected with the Hanlin College and the Court of Censors.

(2 and 3) Memorials from the Prince of Li and his colleagues of the Imperial Commission specially appointed for this purpose, submitting the result of their deliberations respecting the position to be assigned to the tablet of his late Majesty in the Imperial Ancestral Temple.

(4) A memorial from Chung P'ei-hien, Reader of the Grand Secretariat, separately submitting his views on the above subject.

(5) The high authorities at Foochow memorialize reporting that they have established a Charitable Commission for the distribution of relief to the sufferers by the recent floods, at the head of which they have placed the Taotai Kun Yih-t'u, who is at present on leave at Foochow, his native place, from his proper post, Chefoo. He is a man of large capacity combined with prudence, active and enterprising in the conduct of affairs, not deterred by dread of incurring personal antipathies or inclined to shrink from business connected with naval administration (i.e., on the new system.) An extension of his leave for two months is solicited, in order that the authorities may continue to enjoy the advantage of his active management of the Commission.—Granted by rescript.

5th Aug.—(1) A decree in reply to a memorial from Tso Tsung-t'ang, who has reported the result of a trial instituted in the case of the ex-district Magistrate of Tun-hwang, accused of bringing false charges against his successor in office, in revenge for the latter's refusal to take over his accounts as they stood. The charges and countercharges have been enquired into, with the result of finding the successor in office, Tsang Shun-tah, guilty of neglect to discover that excessive levies of taxation were carried on in his district, for which shortcoming he has been already stripped of his rank. The accuser, Sieh Yung-hün, who had misappropriated public funds, with design to commit embezzlement, and who subsequently was rash enough to present a complaint based upon an anonymous and consequently unlawful handbill, is dismissed from the public service for ever.

(2) A rescript confirming a number of military appointments submitted by the Board of War after passing the candidates

in review. The list is headed by Colonel Shang Ch'ang-mow 尙昌懋, who has been breveted as a Manchu Brigade-General, and whose appointment as Colonel commandant of the Governor-General's brigade in Kwangtung is confirmed.

The remainder of this day's *Gazette* is occupied by farther memorials relating to the enshrinement of the Imperial tablet, presented by the Vice-President Yüan Pao-heng and the Commissioner of the Court of Transmission, Sih Chên.

Aug. 6th.—(Court Circular.) The Governor of Shun-tien Fu reports that rain has fallen to the degree of entire saturation.—This refers to the 24 hours of rain experienced on the 4th inst.

The whole of this day's *Gazette* is occupied with farther memorials on the question of the enshrinement of the Imperial tablet.

Aug. 7th and 8th.—The *Gazettes* for both days are entirely occupied with memorials from various members of the Government departments at Peking, bringing to bear their respective stores of antiquarian erudition on the subject of the place to be assigned to the tablet of the late Emperor in the Imperial Ancestral Temple.

Aug. 9th.—(1) A decree commanding that selection be made from among the Prefects throughout the province of Szech'wan to fill the post of Prefect of Ch'eng-tu Fu (the provincial centre); and nominating P'eng Ming-t'i to fill the vacancy that will be caused by the transfer.

No other documents of importance.

Aug. 10th.—(1) A decree based upon a memorial from Ting Pao-ch'eng, newly appointed Governor-General of Sze-ch'wan, who has denounced twelve department and district Magistrates for defalcation or misappropriation connected with public monies under their charge. As requested, all the officials incriminated are stripped of their rank, and are required to make restitution within two months, under penalty of being subjected to severe punishment.

(2) A decree based upon a farther memorial from the same authority, who has denounced a large number of department and district Magistrates for various forms of incompetency or flagitious conduct. Among these are an officer named Yao Wén-sün, who has served as acting Department Magistrate of Yeo-yang Chow, and who is impeached as "regardless of the people's affairs, and possessed of but mediocre ability." Another officer, Hwang Kia-hwén by name, who has been Magistrate of the same department, is characterized as guilty of "unauthorized exactions on his own behalf, and devoid of compassion for the people." All the incriminated functionaries, each characterized in the condemnatory "eight-word paragraphs" required by regulation in these cases, are stripped of their rank as requested.—N.B. Yeo-yang Chow is the department which was distinguished for a series of years as the scene of continual disturbances between the Roman Catholic proselytes and the non-Christian Chinese, and by the murder of several priests.

(3) A rescript to a memorial reporting the escape of two prisoners, named Chang Hao-i and Chan Lao-wu from the prison of the Judicial Commissioner of Sze-ch'wan. The jail warden is stripped of his rank and ordered to be placed on trial, and the most stringent measures taken to ascertain whether any guilty connivance has been indulged in by any of the clerks or warders. The two escaped prisoners are also to be apprehended without fail.

(4) A decree conferring rank as district Magistrates or as superintendents of instruction, respectively, upon the provincial graduates of the *pa kung shêng* and *yeo shêng* classes who have been presented in audience after passing examination at Peking.

Official Papers.

MEMORIAL BY THE CHINESE ENVOY AND ASSISTANT ENVOY TO GREAT BRITAIN, RECOMMENDING THE GRADUAL SUPPRESSION OF OPIUM-SMOKING.

Dated April, 1877.

Your servants reverently solicit that the Sacred Glance may be cast upon the memorial they herewith lay before the throne, representing the injury which is caused by opium,—the fact that a public association has been formed in China and in Europe to agitate for prohibition against its importation—and the urgent necessity which exists for an endeavour on the part of China to take steps in the matter.

They humbly submit that trade has been carried on for upwards of a thousand years past between Europe (*lit.* the Western Ocean,—*Si Yang*) and Canton; that during the period of the Ming dynasty, Matteo Ricci travelled in China, followed by Adam Schall and Ferdinand Verbiest under the reigns of sovereigns of our present ruling line; and that at the audience to which Ma Kéh-li (Lord Maoartney) was summoned by His Majesty the Emperor Kao Tsung (K'ien Lung), permission was specially granted for the use of the European form of salutation, at all which successive periods [intercourse was held] without prejudice or ill-will. The breach of amicable relations which ensued, in the year 1840, in consequence of the resolution taken for the prohibition of opium, has been repeated at successive intervals, with the result which is seen at the present day. It may be asserted, therefore, as a fact, that the disastrous collisions between European nations (*Si Yang*) and China owe their origin to opium. When the evil is traced home to its source, and its injurious consequences are appreciated, little doubt can remain as to the anxious care (*lit.* scratching of the head and wrinkling of the brows) which should be devoted to their removal by precept and prohibition. Since the period (A.D. 1839) in the reign of Tao Kwang, when the use of opium was declared a criminal offence, and endeavours were made to impose a stringent interdiction upon the practice, the official class has failed to carry out this enactment as the law requires; and so far as concerns the persons holding official situations, candidates for the government examinations, and the soldiery, who, on the resolution being taken in the year 1859 to rescind the interdiction, were still forbidden to smoke the drug—the restriction has been regarded as a mere form of words, and a state of ignorance of any restriction being in force has continued to prevail. It is necessary to observe, therefore, that the interdiction against opium was first imposed in the reign of Yung-Ch'eng (A.D. 1723–1735). In its earlier period the drug was used only in medicine, and trafficked within the limits of the Chinese Empire. Thanks to the vigour and wisdom of the administration and the system of public instruction, together with the respect shewn by the official class for the duties of their position, the laws were obeyed among the masses in fear and trembling, and none made bold to become smokers of the drug. The practice only became widely prevalent in the early years of the reign of Tao Kwang (beginning A.D. 1821), since when it has gone on increasingly. [Cultivation] having been introduced from India into Yunnan, the *Nan Tu* (Yunnan opium) came into use; from this it extended into Sze-ch'wan, and the *Ch'wan Tu* (Sze-ch'wan opium) hence took its rise. A further step introduced it into Kansuh, upon which the *Si Tu* (Kansuh opium) became added to the list; and by successive stages it spread into Kweichow, Shensi, and Shansi. For ten or twenty years past, agriculture has been abandoned for the

growth of the poppy-plant, in a yearly increasing degree, whilst the importation by Europeans into China has also gone on upon a progressive scale. It has been plainly evident that the larger the extent of the cultivation the greater is the number of those who indulge in the use of the drug; so that it would seem as though the entire population of China were about to lose their accustomed ways of livelihood, and with shrivelled necks and sallow visages, gasping painfully for breath, to become no better than an utter wreck.

Men of the educated class in Europe, who have become aware of the extent to which the injurious consequences of the use of opium are felt, and of the degree to which China has suffered from its effects, have combined in establishing a public association to agitate for the suppression of the cultivation and trade in the drug. On the arrival of your servants at London, they have been approached with representations on the subject by a deputation of upwards of fifty persons, including a person of hereditary title (the Earl of Shaftesbury) a member of Parliament named ——— (?), and a missionary named Likétannapiis, who evinced in this outward manifestations the upright sentiments with which they were actuated.

Your servants would humbly submit that the way to effect the suppression of opium smoking is not to multiply prohibitive enactments. The first step which it calls for is to develop a feeling of honourable self-respect among the higher official classes; and an even still more essential requisite is that supervision should be maintained on their own account and enforced in the case of others, by the superior authorities, in order that all latitude and sanction be withheld from the practice. The course it would be proper to pursue is to fix a term of three years' duration, requiring of the Governors-General and Governors of the provinces that they should direct the several district authorities under them to cause large quantities of anti-opium prescriptions to be made up and distributed, and to bring home the fact to the public mind that the period resolved upon will terminate at the completion of three full years. On the expiry of the period, such persons as shall fail to abstain from the further continuance of the practice to be dealt with as follows, viz., those holding official positions to be denounced and stripped of their rank; graduates at the third and secondary examinations, to be deprived of their degrees; and responsible authorities, who shall have failed to report offences within their ken, to undergo the like penalty. Moreover, as the law provides that in the case of all candidates for the primary civil and military examinations, the individuals coming forward shall be held mutually responsible for each other, by bond, in groups of five, the interdiction against opium should be made a paramount consideration, and all who connive at a case of indulgence should be equally debarred from the privilege of competition. In the case of the "student" class, (*) all such as are addicted to opium-smoking should, in the first instance, be suspended from the privilege of examination; and in the case of any such as may furtively gain entrance into the competition, the salaried licentiates who have given security on their behalf should be punished by deprivation together with the actual offender. Salaried licentiates who smoke opium should, as a preliminary measure, be deprived of the right of standing as security; and if any, notwithstanding, should be found improperly exercising this function, the superintendents of instruction should pay the penalty by deprivation of their offices.

The object with which it is sought to secure that, within the term of three years, there shall be no opium smokers left within the educational associations of the

(*) i.e. the persons who have not as yet gained the right to enter at the local literary competitions. TRANS.

country, is that of stimulating in a right direction the popular resolve, and inspiring a firm determination, which, after all, consists simply in appealing to the sentiment of self-respect.

With regard to the cultivation of the poppy in Sze-ch'wan, Yunnan, Kansuh, and Shensi, the matter of first importance is that an effective check be placed on the action of those in authority. Your servants have been informed that the produce yielded by a *mu* of land under poppy cultivation exceeds by several times [the value] of that derived from land under ordinary tillage, and this at a less expenditure of labour. The authorities, consequently, at the provincial capital, in the departments, and in the subordinate districts, have introduced additional levies of an illegal character, and collect an unauthorized duty upon the opium produced, whereby a revenue is obtained, itself larger by several times than the amount established by law for the regular taxation. Both officials and people having in this wise a source of profit open to them, the practice has spread far and wide this long time past, in every direction. The population which employs itself, moreover, in the cultivation of the poppy, including both the sexes, has become addicted to the practice of smoking, in the absence of means to place the population under a stringent prohibition, as is done in India, against the smoking of the opium which is there produced. As a result of this state of affairs, slothful and negligent habits are developed, and a wasteful system of expenditure becomes daily on the increase. It is impossible, consequently, in many cases, to meet the demands of the established system of taxation, and the evils of poverty make themselves felt. The supplies which are required for the food of the people are interfered with, and the stores which should fill the granaries become reduced to nought. In view of the boundless evils which must follow in the train of a wide extension of the poppy cultivation, it cannot be imagined that we can continue to hold over own.

The fact should be recalled that in the reign of Yung Ch'eng (A.D. 1723–1735) an imperial edict forbade the cultivation of sugar-cane in the province of Kwang-tung. (*) The motive of this earnest step was anxiety on behalf of the food supply of the people; yet if, in the case of the sugar-cane, which itself produces an article of daily necessity in food, the heart of the Sacred one was disturbed with care, how much the more must this be the case in respect of opium, an actual source of injury to the State!

Prostrate, therefore, we would entreat your Majesty to adopt a policy, firm in principle although lenient in point of time. Within a period of three years, [we would have] the provincial Literary Chancellors throughout the Empire required to set matters right as regards the educational associations within their several jurisdictions, and the Governors-General and Governors required to effect such reform as is necessary among the ranks of their subordinates. As regards the cultivation of the poppy, it will be necessary, furthermore, that the high authorities should require the district and department Magistrates to call upon the notables and people generally to set matters right in the localities respectively under their control, a change being thus gradually brought about by patient effort and exhortation. Beyond all this, if within a period of twenty years the practice is to have been wholly given up by the entire people, and actual results are to be obtained, not mere idle words, it is indispensable that vigorous effect be given [to the resolution taken] without insisting upon immediate

(*) In order that this statement should not appear incredible, it may be observed here that the government of China, as at present constituted, is immutably based upon the theory that the mass of the population should be solely occupied with the production of a food supply. TRANS.

results. This being the case, it must follow as a matter of course that men will either not venture to refrain, or not endure the thought of refraining, from the suppression of the practice.

Your servants, bringing such knowledge as they are gifted with to bear on the subject, have set forth an outline of the course to be pursued with a view to achieving an advantageous result; and, overwhelmed with trepidation at the liberty they have permitted themselves, they prostrate entreat the Sacred Glance of Your Majesties (the Empresses) and Your Majesty (the Emperor) upon their humble representation.

Public Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council, held in the Council Room, 17, Kiangee Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 13th August, 1877, at 9 o'clock A.M.

Present—Messrs. E. H. Lavers, Vice-Chairman, in the chair, G. J. W. Cowie, P. G. Hubbe, E. G. Low, A. McLeod, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the previous meeting are read and confirmed, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for week ending 11th inst. is submitted for inspection, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Financial Statement is submitted, showing that in the event of shipments of silk to 31st December next falling short of the estimate, all the works provided for in the Budget cannot be carried out, without creating a deficit at the end of the year. The Works Committee are requested to report whether any of the works can be judiciously deferred till next year.

Pontoons.—Tenders for a new iron Pontoon are considered, but acceptance of any one deferred pending receipt of report from Works Committee as to postponing other works.

Cleansing Yang-king-pang Creek.—Chum-lum-kee's tender is accepted, and work ordered to be proceeded with as soon as Health Officer allows.

Drain-Pipes.—Another stock being wanted, authority is given to order a supply at once from England, so as to allow of its being shipped via the Cape at a favorable time.

Roads—Broadway.—"Give and Take" line, proposed by the owner of Lot 62, is not accepted, the decision of the previous Council being confirmed.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY'S REPORT.

The Directors have now to submit to you their half-yearly report with a statement of accounts to 30th June last.

During the period under review there have been more vessels docked and repaired than in the previous six months, the tonnage amounting to 99,614 against 80,103. The work has been done at exceedingly low rates, however, but still the profit has been fair, and the result of the half-year would have been more satisfactory had an unfortunate claim under the contract made in May, 1874, for building the steamer *Lipa*, not been decided against the Company; the claim, amounting to \$4,444.52, and the sum of \$1,403.75, part cost of a boundary wall and an extension of the boiler shed at Kowloon, have been paid out of earnings.

The gross receipts of the Company amount to \$202,768.20, and the net profit to\$33,711.89
To which has to be added the balance brought forward from last account 10,744.46
Making available\$44,456.35

From which has to be deducted :—	
Bonus to contributing shareholders	\$2,000.00
Directors' fees	2,500.00
Auditors' fees	250.00
	4,750.00
	\$39,706.35

The Directors recommend that no dividend be declared, but that \$25,000 be paid the Hongkong Fire Insurance Company in reduction of loan, and the balance, \$14,706.35, carried forward to new account.

The sum of \$40,000 has been received from the Chinese Government on account of the Whampoa Docks, and they have still \$40,000 to pay. The amount received and the \$15,000 appropriated at last meeting have been paid in reduction of loan, and the debt now stands at \$85,000, but will shortly be reduced to \$20,000, by the balance due from the Chinese Government and if the appropriation of \$25,000 out of present profits be sanctioned by the shareholders.

Miscellaneous.

RULES FOR THE LANDING AND SHIPMENT OF MERCHANDIZE, AND PAYMENT OF INLAND DUTIES, AT THE PLACES OF CALL FOR STEAMERS ON THE YANGTZE KIANG.

1.—The expression native boats in the Agreement of Chefoo includes only such cargo-boats as shall be registered and licensed by the tax-office at either of the six places of call, and shall not include all boats indiscriminately.

2.—Exception being made, at the places of call, of imports and exports accompanied by transit certificates, which, after being found on inspection to agree with the certificates, shall be allowed—in the case of imports—to be put on board boats, or landed and allowed free passage, or—in the case of exports—to be embarked for transportation to the place of export named in the certificate, without any levy of duty or *lekin* whatsoever at any of the six places of call; all other merchandize, being unaccompanied by certificates, shall be dealt with as the following Regulations prescribe.

3.—Goods embarked for shipment from one of the places of call to another, shall in the first instance pay the *lekin* due at the point of shipment. No Customs' duty will be leviable upon goods reported for shipment from one place of call to another where no Custom House intervenes (e.g., from Ta-t'ung to Ngan-king, or from Lu-chi-k'ow to Sha-shih.)

Where a Custom House intervenes (e.g., between Ta-t'ung or Ngan-king and Wu-sieh, or between Wu-sieh and Lu-chi-k'ow or Sha-shih), the full duty shall be paid on arrival at the said Custom House. In either of the above cases, the *lekin* office at the point of shipment shall require payment of *lekin* to be made, calculated at as many times the amount leviable at that point as there are *lekin* stations to be passed in the course of the journey, in order to make up the total amount that should be levied.

Goods which pass two Custom Houses in the course of their journey shall pay full and half-duty at the first Custom House they reach; and the *lekin* office at the place of shipment shall require an additional payment of *lekin* to be made, calculated at as many times the amount leviable at that point as there are *lekin* stations to be passed before reaching the first Custom House, and after passing the second (e.g., when shipments are made from Ta-t'ung or Ngan-king to Sha-shih or Lu-chi-k'ow, or from Sha-shih or Lu-chi-k'ow to Ta-t'ung or Ngan-king, merchandize shall not be required to make up the amount of *lekin* leviable at any stations after passing the first Custom House and before reaching the second Custom House intervening on the journey.) Exemption as

above will not be made in the case of merchandize which may not pass any, or but one, Custom House.

4.—Merchandize shipped at any of the places of call for discharge at either of the open ports on the Yangtze or at Shanghai, after paying *lekin* at the place of shipment, and declaring the point of intended destination, shall pay full and half-duty at the first Custom House arrived at. The *lekin* office at the place of shipment shall require an additional payment of *lekin* to be made, calculated at as many times the amount leviable at that point as there are *lekin* stations to be passed before arriving at the first Custom House. In cases where the first Custom House is also the point of destination declared (e.g., as in the case of shipments from Ta-t'ung or Ngan-king for Kiukiang, from Wu-sieh to Hankow, or from Lu-chi-k'ow and Sha-shih to I-ch'ang), the full duty alone shall be leviable on arrival at the Custom House, and the half-duty shall not be required.

5.—In the case of goods shipped at Shanghai or at any of the open ports on the Yangtze to be landed at either of the places of call, either full and half-duty, or simply full duty, will in the first instance be levied at the port of shipment. (e.g., On shipment from the port of Wuhu to Ta-t'ung, there being but one Custom House to pass, there will be but a single payment of full duty to be levied. In case of a shipment from Chinkiang to Ta-t'ung, there being two Custom Houses to pass, the payment of full and half-duty will be required. The passage of any greater number of Custom Houses will not entail the payment of any amounts of duty beyond the rates above mentioned, which will be collected by the Custom House at the point of shipment.) Report will be made declaring the point of intended destination, and a duty receipt will be issued which must be produced for inspection at the place of debarkation.

In addition to the foregoing duty payments, the amount of *lekin* due at the point of shipment will be required to be paid, and the *lekin* office will further require an additional payment of *lekin* to be made, calculated at as many times the amount leviable at that point as there are *lekin* stations to be passed beyond the last Custom House on the journey.

Note.—In cases where the only Custom House passed is that at which the merchandize is embarked, this shall be considered "the last Custom House" within the meaning of the above article.

6. Receipts for the amount of *lekin* paid shall be given at every place of payment at the points of call, and these shall be exhibited at the Custom Houses passed and at the place of debarkation. In the case of merchandize which is to pay duty at a Custom House, the *lekin* office at the point of shipment shall make out a statement of *lekin*, which shall be handed under seal to the master of the steamer for delivery to the Commissioner of Customs at the first Custom House arrived at. The owner of the merchandize will at the same time exhibit his *lekin* receipt at the Custom House and pay the amount of Customs' duty for which a receipt will be issued to him. The Customs will at the same time stamp and return to him his *lekin* receipt which he will be required to exhibit at the place of debarkation.

If, on the arrival of merchandize at a port, or at one of the points of call, the owner is unable to produce the receipts for duty and *lekin*, the goods shall be confiscated.

Any persons making untrue declarations of the point of destination with intent to defraud the revenue shall, whenever detected, be subjected to a fine.

Should any merchandize be landed or shipped, contrary to regulation, at any other than the authorized stopping places, the goods in question shall be confiscated, and proceedings shall be taken against the offending vessel in accordance with the regulations applicable in such case.

7.—Special regulations are necessary for the collection of duty at the one point of Hu-k'ow. The conditions prevailing at this point not having as yet, however, been ascertained by examination, the present regulations will be put in force experimentally at the remaining five points, and the arrangements at Hu-k'ow will be left to be decided upon after further enquiry.

8.—The collection of *lekin* at the six points of call is a subject entirely independent of the Customs' Tariff. The course hitherto pursued has been to levy 2% on the value of the merchandize, according to the rates locally prevailing. The scales and weights used in the collection of duties and examination of merchandize shall be the same as those in use at the various Custom Houses, without difference of any kind.

9.—The following are ascertained to be the stations at which *lekin* is levied on merchandize along the Yangtze, between Sha-shih and Ta-t'ung, viz:—

In the province of Hupeh:

- 1.—Sha-shih.
- 2.—Peh-ho-k'ow.
- 3.—Ying-wu-chow.
- 4.—Fan-k'ow.
- 5.—Wu-sueh.

In the province of Kiangsi:

- 1.—Urh-tao-k'ow.

In the province of Ngan-hwei:

- 1.—Hwa-yang.
- 2.—Ngan-k'ing.
- 3.—Ta-t'ung.

Making nine stations in all.

At each of the six points of call a list shall be exhibited, setting forth the names of the different *lekin* stations, above or below the point of call, in their proper order. It shall likewise be made known for the information of traders that the stations for which *lekin* payments will be required to be made up are those lying within the limits of the six points of call, excluding all to the eastward of Ta-t'ung or to the westward of Sha-shih.

10. Merchandize to be shipped at any of the six points of call must await inspection and the completion of the payment of *lekin*, and must be conveyed to the steamer by the registered cargo-boats proceeding from the government jetty to be examined.

Any merchandize which it may be attempted to ship or land by unlicensed private boats, shall be confiscated, and the boatman shall be proceeded against.

11. The amounts of *lekin* collected at each of the points of call must be credited to the stations to which they are respectively due, and remitted periodically. The officers placed in charge of the said points of call shall forward to the Custom House of the province within which their stations are situated, and also to the Deputy Commissioner for the six places of call, residing at Hankow, a weekly return shewing in detail the amounts of *lekin* collected, and the description and quantities of the merchandize landed or shipped, and also a monthly summary return of the said particulars from which the quarterly Reports will be compiled.

N.B.—The Rules set forth above are proposed experimentally for one year. Should they be found insufficient or open to objection in any respect, they shall be held subject to future revision as may be found necessary.

THE COLLISION BETWEEN THE "DRAGON" AND "FROLIC."

We have little to add to the main facts of the collision between the *Dragon* and the *Frolie*, as reported in our last issue. The tugboat *Rocket* went to the assistance of the latter on the South Bank on Friday, and towing her off in the afternoon brought her into port. At Woosung they met the *Kuashing*, with Captain James A. Poland of the *Juno* on board, and also the tugboat *Fokelin*, with two cargo boats

in tow; and they all returned to Shanghai together. The *Frolie* was anchored for the night below the Naval Yard, and on Saturday morning the *Rocket* and *Fokelin* took her in tow up the River to Tung-ka-doo. She presented a peculiar spectacle. Usually her draught was between eight and nine feet aft, but on this occasion it was something like fifteen feet, her stern being nearly submerged as far as the mizen mast, while her bow was only four feet in the water. No difficulty, however, was experienced with her from the time she left the South Bank to her arrival at Tung-ka-doo, where she was moored alongside and measures taken to balance her on an even keel to admit of her ingress to the dock. She was safely docked at an early hour on Tuesday morning. Her guns and several tons of pig iron and other heavy ballast were placed forward so as to lower her bows to bring her on an even keel; and then she was docked without the least difficulty. Her damage now can, of course, be fully viewed, and several residents have inspected her during the last few days. From the appearance of the rent in her side, it would seem that the *Dragon* struck her almost at right angles; and had she not been a strongly built vessel and provided with water-tight compartments, it is tolerably certain that her flotation could not have been sustained many minutes after the collision. The rent on the deck is fully four feet wide and gradually narrows to two feet, extending down to within six inches of the screw shaft; the port quarter of the vessel, in fact, being literally cut in two. The stem of the *Dragon* penetrated nearly four feet, and has destroyed not only the wooden framework, but one of the iron supports also. The force of the blow is evidenced by the cleanness of the hole. The planks are not shattered to any extent, but cut through as by an axe used by a powerful hand; and the progress of the *Dragon's* stem seems only to have been arrested by the strength of the iron bollards. The water which filled the aft compartments of the vessel has been pumped out. She is to be thoroughly overhauled before leaving dock, and many weeks will elapse before her repairs can be executed.

The damage she has sustained is, if anything, greater than what we stated a week ago. The stem of the *Dragon* must have penetrated nearly through the cabin of the Navigating-Lieutenant, who, at the time of the collision, was on the bridge in company with the Commander, Arthur E. Dupuis. Had he been in his room he must inevitably have been killed. The water rushed in so rapidly that the officers had not time to save any of their belongings, not even their clothing. They lost everything, except what they happened to be wearing at the time, and, it being night, some of them found themselves in rather an awkward predicament in this respect. Their apartments in the vessel being all but submerged, they have had no sleeping accommodation, and have had to do the best they could on deck. The *Frolie* is of composite build, and a sister ship to the *Kestrel*, and was considered one of the strongest vessels belonging to the British navy on the coast.—The stem of the *Dragon* is broken in three places in the space of thirteen feet, and forced to port ten inches; and five plates on either side are destroyed. The framework in the fore compartment is also damaged; the port cathead is forced out of its position, and the fore-castle rail and mouldings are slightly injured. She has gone into the Old Dock.

How the collision came to occur, is not likely to be correctly known until some official investigation is held. It is said that Captain Grevatt, of the *Dragon*, and one of his officers were on the bridge; while it is also asserted that the Commander and the Navigating-Lieutenant were on the bridge of the *Frolie*, that they saw the lights of the *Dragon* for fully a quarter of an hour and ported their helm.

As to what has been said about there being no side-lights on the *Frolie*, it is well-known that the side-lights of a vessel of her kind are not in the same position as side-lights on mercantile vessels; but are placed in the bows, and are watched by two men who have to report every half-hour whether they are burning or not.

Correspondence.

TEA PROSPECTS.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—I wonder if it would surprise those bold operators in tea, who, in hopes of a short export, are not afraid to speculate at prices twenty per cent. over the London rates of last year, if they were to learn that if the most sanguine estimates are realized, and export of Congou proves over twenty millions short of last year, even then stocks of Congou in London on the first of July 1878 will be only a few millions short of what they were on the first of July, 1877, unless consumption of Congou increases considerably. Yet such is the case.

To prove this statement I will premise that deliveries of Congou for 1877-78 average 10,500,000 lbs. per month. This is a fair increase on the three previous seasons, when deliveries were—

	lbs.	lbs.
1876-124,939,000	or an average of	10,411,583
1875-123,450,000	or an average of	10,287,500
1874-121,220,000	or an average of	10,101,500
previous to 1874,	they never touched an	average of 10,000,000 lbs. per month.
Now, on July 1st, 1877, stock of	lbs.	
Congou in London was.....(a)	35,826,000	
Add Shanghai and		
Hankow Export (b)	70,000,000	
Add Foochow Export.....(c)	43,000,000	
Add Canton Export (d)	7,296,706	
Add Florence Nightingale and Eliza Shaw.....(e)	1,475,786	
		121,772,492
		lbs. 157,598,492

Deduct twelve months' deliveries(f) 126,000,000.

Deduct Canton teas arrived before July 1st, 1877 590,714

126,590,719

And we have stock of Congou on July 1st, 1878 lbs. 31,007,773

or only 4,818,227 lbs. falling off, and this allowing for the enormous amount of 21,149,432 lbs. deficiency in our export, a very unlikely thing to happen.

These figures are unassailable, and any one is at liberty to pick holes in them if they can do so.

Now then, as to the prospect of an increase in consumption, we may fairly reckon on an increase in export deliveries of 4,500,000 lbs. to compensate for there having been no direct shipments to Russia. But as to an increase in home consumption, there is no reason whatever to expect any. All the increase of late years has been on Indian teas, and with such a bad crop of

(a).—Vide Brokers Circulars.

(b).—Against 75,995,349 lbs. to England, and 4,539,097 to Russia, a falling off of 10,534,446 lbs.

(c).—Against 53,614,986 lbs., a falling off of 10,614,986 lbs.

(d).—Same as last year.

(e).—Old Season's vessels arrived after July 1st, 1877.

(f).—At an average of 10,500,000 lbs. per month.

China teas as this year's is, will probably continue so. However, even if there were to be an increase in home consumption, equal to the increase in export deliveries, say another 4,500,000 lbs., and allowing the full deficiency in the China export as estimated above, stocks of Congou to be held over into the new season would still be 22,000,000 lbs., quite enough to prevent the slightest inconvenience to the trade.

These facts are really worth the attention of buyers, who are led away by a vague idea that a falling off of a few millions in the export will lead to a tea famine, or by some exaggerated notion of the effect such reports will have on the London market. As yet the trade in England has not been bitten by any such mania, and except for good and fine teas, which everybody knows are really in very small supply, the market is as dull and inactive as ever.

If present prices bring more tea, as many affirm they will, and if deliveries do not increase at home, then Heaven help the tea trade.

Yours faithfully,

FACTS AND FIGURES.

CANINE INTERMENT.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

MY DEAR SIR,—In the August number of *The Far East*, in the memoir of Generals Ward and Burgevine and of the Ever-Conquering Legion, I find the following passage *apropos* of the ceremonies attending Ward's canonization:—

"When it is considered that there are Christian states, in whose service were an American to fall, only a canine interment would be permitted, this liberality on the part of a Confucian empire demands grateful recognition."

In the Abbé Huc's travels I find something which seems to throw light on the phrase "canine interment." It is this:—

"There are four different species of sepulture practised in Thibet; the first combustion; the second immersion in the rivers and lakes; the third exposure on the summits of the mountains; and the fourth, which is considered the most complimentary of all, consists in cutting the dead bodies in pieces, and giving these to be eaten by the dogs. The last method is by far the most popular. The poor have only as their mausoleum the common vagabond dogs of the locality; but the more distinguished defunct are treated with greater ceremony. In all the Lamaseries, a number of dogs are kept *ad hoc*, and within them the rich Thibetians are buried."

This is the only place which occurs to me where I have found mention of "canine interment." Will the writer of the interesting paper in the *Far East* favour me with the name of the Christian state where this strange, and to us revolting, custom obtains.

Yours truly,

CURIOSITY.

Shanghai, 23rd August.

Law Reports.

CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, August 22nd.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

TA CHANG-HO and others v. L. BRANDON.

This was a claim for \$99, balance of an account.

The debt was contracted at Tientsin, where defendant had been employed as a Municipal Constable. Plaintiff had supplied him with food for two months, and there had been transactions in furniture between them. The question to be decided was solely one of accounts.

Defendant, who left Tientsin by a steamer at two o'clock in the morning when he told plaintiffs he was not going to leave, contended that plaintiffs' claim was extortionate, and

that if he had been able to pay him before he left Tientsin, he should have done so.

His HONOUR went fully into the accounts, and gave a verdict for the plaintiff for \$86 and the costs.

POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, August 20th.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq.

R. (POLICE) v. THOMAS HILL.

Drunk and Incapable.

Prisoner is an able seaman on board the *Glenroy*, and he was charged with being drunk and incapable in a jiriksha at 3.45 p.m. on Sunday, on the Broadway, Hongkew.

Cautioned, and ordered to pay \$1.50, the costs of the Court.

August 22nd.

R. (POLICE) v. ASSON.

Drunkness.

Prisoner, who is a native of Bombay, was charged with being drunk on the Yang-king-pang at 9 p.m. on the 21st inst.

He admitted the offence, and said that he had been in Shanghai three years and was now destitute. He was a watchman, and for the last two years had been out of employment and living with friends. He had no prospect of obtaining work here, and would like to go to Hongkong.

His WORSHIP sent him to gaol for seven days, and said that at the expiration of that time he would be sent to Hongkong.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, Aug. 16th.

Before the Chinese Magistrate CHEN, and C. T. GARDNER, Esq., *British Assessor.*

GILMOUR & Co. v. SZE YUEN-CHANG.

Plaintiff claimed Tls. 1,800, loss on a consignment of thirty bales of silk by the defendant.

The silk was sent home on defendant's consignment, through the plaintiffs. The bills became matured, and the silk had not then been disposed of. Defendant had already paid Tls. 600 margin to hold, and plaintiffs demanded payment of a further margin. The facts were not disputed, and when the case was before the Court on the 9th inst., it was arranged that a telegram should be sent home ordering the silk to be sold if anything over 17s. could be obtained for it. It was sold at 17s. 3d., making the loss on the whole consignment about Tls. 1,900. Defendant had paid Tls. 600; so that the balance now due to plaintiffs was something like Tls. 1,300.

Defendant objected to pay, but assigned no reason for his refusal.

Plaintiffs urged that they had had to pay the money out of their pockets, and did not want to wait any longer for it. Defendant was well able to pay, and was now obstructive, but for what object they did not know. If defendant had acted on their advice, the silk would have realised a profit; and defendant had only himself to blame for the loss.

The COURT ordered him to pay Tls. 1,000 within 10 days, and the balance when the account sales arrived from England.

GILMAN & Co. v. TING PING-CHAI.

This was a claim for Tls. 1,448.48, lost on a shipment of nine bales of silk to Europe, in September, 1876.

The case has been before the Court in one shape or form more than a dozen sittings, and a verdict on the 14th May was given in favour of the plaintiff for the full amount claimed. The defendant, however, obtained leave to have the cause reheard. The only point in dispute was as to whether the silk was sold to Gilman & Co. by the defendant, or whether it was merely shipped by them on his account. Plaintiffs contended that they shipped the silk on defendant's account; defendant denied their statement, and urged that he sold it out and out to Gilman & Co., and that if there had been a profit on it, they would have received it. When the case was last before the Court, however, defendant first said one thing and then another; and the Magistrate said it was useless pursuing his examination further.

The ASSESSOR now said he sincerely hoped they would be able to finish the case in a few minutes.

Mr. LAYERS, who represented the plaintiffs, asked if the witnesses, who it was promised should be present, were in attendance.

The ASSESSOR, after consulting with the Magistrate, said the witnesses were not present. One of them had gone to Hankow, and the other two were sick.

Mr. LAYERS said he wished to have their evidence to prove that it was not customary to have his book signed when a Chinaman shipped silk on his own account.

The MAGISTRATE replied that he wished the witnesses to attend, but he did not like to send a policeman to force them to the Court, when they were ill. If the only evidence the plaintiffs wished the witnesses to give, was to prove that it had not been customary for a consignee of silk to write his name to the contract in the books, the Magistrate was of the opinion that the examination of the books themselves was sufficient without the evidence of the witnesses.

The ASSESSOR expressed his opinion that in a case of this kind a European plaintiff was placed in rather a bad position. By some defect in Chinese institutions, the power to compel the attendance of witnesses in Chinese Courts was not adequate to the requirements of justice; and he was also of the opinion that the same defect was observable in Chinese Courts with regard to enforcing their decisions. The inference to draw from these two facts was that foreign merchants, in dealing with Chinese, should be more cautious than if they were dealing with a European or an American. As regarded the present case, the evidence to his mind was perfectly complete. The Magistrate, however, desired to consult his superiors, and he was willing to meet his view in this respect; therefore judgment would be reserved until 11 o'clock on Monday morning.

20th August.

GILMAN & Co. v. TING PING-CHAI.

Decision of Magistrate.

In this case Ting Ping-chai handed certain bales of Silk to Gilman & Co. with a request that they should send them to France for sale. This silk was sold at a loss, owing to a fall in the market, as was admitted by all sides. And there consequently ought to have been no repudiation, and could not have been had it not been for the fact that when Gilman & Co. took delivery of the goods, the defendant did not sign his name in the books; consequently, when pressed to pay, he appealed to get the previous judgment reversed.

As for the statement of his not signing in the books, silk is constantly consigned without that formality being gone through, though undoubtedly such laxity is blamable. In the present case, the question whether the silk was sold or consigned is tolerably simple.

The Court had pointed out to it by the plaintiffs three entries in their books where Ting Ping-chai had consigned silk without signing his name, and had received the accruing profit on the out-turn. It is not competent for the defendant, who has received the profit of the silk consigned without his signing his name in the books, to contend that he is not to pay a loss of silk consigned under exactly the same circumstances.

The Court have examined the records of the first hearing of the case, and found defendant then stated—that besides the silk in dispute he had consigned upwards of 100 bales, in all of which instances he had not signed his name in the books; he feared bye-and-bye news would come shewing so great a loss on these consignments that he could not possibly pay.

It is therefore clear that the consignments of defendant, in which he did not sign the books, were not confined to the nine bales now in dispute.

The books defendant handed into Court of his transactions do not agree with the sums of money paid by Gilman & Co. to him; both the quantity of silk and the price thereof are incorrectly entered; further, Ting Ping-chai handed in different books at the first hearing to those he handed in on the rehearing, and a careful examination shewed that the books had been tampered with. This was perfectly manifest, and also that it was done designedly to hide the truth and to do away with his previous admissions and depositions. He seemed to forget that he had, when the case

was first entered into, presented a written petition which could be brought up against him; this petition was signed, and stated that he had not been paid the full value of the silk in question. Besides this, he instructed his counsel, Mr. Wainwright, to write a letter to Messrs. Gilman & Co. requesting them to desist from further litigation. When this note was translated to him, although in his previous evidence he had admitted the fact, although Mr. Wainwright's clerk also came up before the Court and declared that he acted as interpreter between Mr. Wainwright and Ting Ping-chai, and that Ting Ping-chai had requested Mr. Wainwright to write the letter, he yet denied the fact. When a person tells such manifest untruths as that, no reliance whatever can be placed on his evidence.

With regard to Mr. Gilman's returning to England, defendant has no right to say that that destroys all evidence of the transaction, as Mr. Gilman did not depart till after the case had been first heard, and Ting Ping-chai had admitted the main fact. Regarding all the circumstances of this case, the Magistrate is of opinion that the plaintiffs have proved their case, and that the conduct of defendant in petitioning the Taotai to quash the case, was very reprehensible.

Now the case has been reheard, the former judgment must be upheld, and the defendant is hereby ordered to forthwith pay the Tls. 1,448.48 and interest thereon.

Translated by
C. T. GARDNER.

Assessor's remarks.

While assenting to the above judgment, the undersigned would remark that it was drawn up by the Magistrate independently. The Assessor also drew up independently, in Chinese, his view of the case; and as this is a cause of some importance he submits it with a translation in order that it may form part of the records.

Assessor's view.

In this case plaintiffs petitioned that Ting Ping-chai, of the Chang-ke firm, on the 28th of September, 1876, sent through the plaintiffs, on consignment, nine bales of silk to France; that the market rate of the day was Tls. 660 per picul; that the plaintiffs made an advance to the defendant of Tls. 620 a picul. On the 4th May account sales were received, shewing a loss of Tls. 1,448.48 on the consignment; the reckoning of the account sales was the money advanced, not the market rate.

To recover this money an action was entered at the Mixed Court, and the case was heard before the Mixed Court Magistrate and Mr. Spence. On the 14th May judgment was given in favor of plaintiffs, and defendant was ordered to pay the amount within a fortnight. Having failed to conform to judgment, defendant was again summoned on the 1st June. He then stated that he had been induced by Mr. Gilman to send the goods to France, on consignment, by false representations. He was then informed by the Court that if that statement were true his remedy would be by entering a cross action against Mr. Gilman in the Supreme Court, and he was again given five days grace with the option of either conforming to judgment or entering a cross action. At the end of this further period, he, not having conformed to judgment or entered a cross action, was again summoned and committed to prison for recusancy; having, however, become ill he was released. He then presented a petition to the Taotai, whereupon the Taotai and H.B.M.'s Consul in consultation ordered a rehearing of the case. The rehearing of the case was ordered to take place before the Mixed Court Magistrate, and H.B.M.'s Vice-Consul.

The real point at issue was whether the silk was sold to Gilman & Co., or consigned through them for sale on account of defendant. The defendant argued that he sold the silk to Gilman & Co., and stated that had he consigned it he should have written his name in Gilman & Co.'s book; he further declared that he had never consigned silk but once to Gilman & Co., and that was on the 3rd of September, 1875; that he then signed his name in Gilman & Co.'s books, and that he had lost Tls. 234 on the consignment, which he had paid.

With regard to this statement it may be remarked that it is in direct contradiction to the evidence he gave on the first hearing of the case. His plea then was that he had consigned the silk, but that the fact that he

was induced to do so by the misrepresentation of Mr. Gilman relieved him of liability to pay any loss incurred. Not only did he verbally acknowledge that he had consigned the silk, but in a petition he addressed to the Court, there is a written admission to the same effect.

It was established without a doubt that there is no invariable custom of the trade that persons consigning silk should write their names in the consignee's book; the only question that the absence of the defendant's signature gave rise to was, was it the rule of the defendant always to sign in the plaintiffs' books when he consigned silk to them? The plaintiffs' books for 1875 were examined, and it was ascertained that on the 5th December, 1874, defendant consigned 20 bales of silk to plaintiffs, and did not sign his name in their books; the account sales shewed a profit of Tls. 294.8. On the 6th August, 1875, this sum was paid to defendant by cheque, which cheque, obtained from the bank it was drawn on, and with defendant's receipt at back, is now in possession of the Court. Again, on the 29th day of July, 1875, defendant consigned 10 bales of silk to plaintiffs, and did not sign his name in their books. The accounts of this consignment shewed a profit of Tls. 127.85. On the 25th August, 1875, defendant consigned to plaintiffs 20 bales. On this occasion also he did not sign his name in the books—a profit accrued of Tls. 149.71. On the 3rd Sept. he consigned 62 bales; on this occasion he for the first and last time signed his name in plaintiffs' books. This consignment shewed a loss of Tls. 234.29, and on the previous consignment the gain was Tls. 277.56. Deducting loss from gain, Tls. 42.66 were paid to Ting Ping-chai by an order now in possession of the Court. It is therefore plain defendant only once wrote his name in the books of plaintiffs, but received the profit on three occasions where he did not write his name.

It would appear, therefore, that it was not his invariable habit in consigning silk to write his name in plaintiffs' books.

As to the question whether the 9 bales in dispute were consigned or sold, it may be remarked that, if there had been only verbal evidence, the credibility of the respective witnesses would be an important fact; and the utter untruthfulness of Ting Ping-chai has been described in the judgment of the Magistrate. The examples the Magistrate adduced, viz., the tampering with the books and the untruths with regard to the letter written by Mr. Wainwright, at his request, are glaring instances of this utter untruthfulness of defendant.

But the Court had other than verbal evidence to guide it; it had the books of the plaintiff. The Court copied all the entries of these books relating to Ting Ping-chai for the year 1876. It further obtained from the banks all the cheques paid to Ting Ping-chai by Gilman & Co. during that year. These cheques are 22 in number, and relate to 59 transactions. The amounts of those transactions have been carefully gone over, and they correspond exactly with the amounts of the cheques; the books of defendant handed in on the rehearing shew no correspondence whatever with the cheques, they were simply fudged (the books handed in on the first hearing I have not seen; they were initiated by Mr. Spence, the transactions were in different columns, &c.) By plaintiffs' books it appears the transactions of Gilman & Co. with Ting Ping-chai during 1876, extended to 1,087 bales. Of these bales 932 were purchased and 16 taken on consignment, and an advance given on them. It is evident, therefore, that Gilman & Co. considered that silk would pay a profit, and that if Mr. Gilman advised defendant to send home silk on consignment he did so in good faith. Further, as Gilman & Co.'s books were written from day to day, they could have had no object in writing that silk was consigned when it was purchased, as of course they could not foretell the market. To alter English books afterwards is impossible, as any alteration would at once be detected.

The next question, is it possible there could have been any misunderstanding between plaintiff and defendant in regard to the nine bales of silk in dispute? This also seems impossible, as when silk is purchased the whole price is paid down, when consigned the consignee makes an advance below the market rate. In Messrs. Gilman & Co.'s books for the

28th September, besides the nine bales in question consigned, value Tls. 660 per picul, advance Tls. 620, ten bales of the same silk appear as purchased at Tls. 690. In defendant's book appear ten bales sold at Tls. 580, nine bales sold at Tls. 630, but these sums will not correspond with the monies received by defendant, as proved by the cheques in the hands of the Court. The defendant's books may be, therefore, put out of the question. The question arises how it happened on one day that the same silk appears in plaintiffs' books as bought for 690 and worth 660. The plaintiffs frankly acknowledged they did not understand this—but a careful examination of the records of the first hearing explained the anomaly. Ting Ping-chai then stated, and the books he first handed in confirmed his statement, that the 10 bales were settled for on the 24th September, but delivered on the 28th September. Now the market price on the 24th September was Tls. 590, on the 28th September, Tls. 660, and on the 12th Oct., Tls. 770. A careful reexamination of plaintiffs' books with a record of the market prices elicited this important discovery. The silk bought by plaintiff was only entered in the books when delivered, and the price put was invariably not the ruling rate of the day of delivery, but of a few days previously, while goods consigned by defendants were entered on the day of consignment, and the amount at which they were valued was the ruling rate of that day, not of previous days. The result of this discovery is to elicit a further proof that the 9 bales in dispute were consigned and not sold. In my opinion, therefore, the Court cannot do otherwise than decide in favor of plaintiffs for the Tls. 1,448.48 demanded, with interest up to date of payment.

In conclusion the Assessor expressed his sense of the laxity of not obtaining consignors' signatures which seems to prevail in Shanghai, and stated that even in the clearest case of debt there is always extreme difficulty in forcing a Chinese to pay. In the present case the ordinary difficulties were aggravated by the omission of so essentially desirable a precaution as obtaining the signature of the consign or on accepting his consignment. It is this omission that has been the cause of the rehearing, and has resulted in the time of the Court being taken up during so many sittings, in making investigations which, had due precaution been taken by plaintiffs, would have been unnecessary.

C. T. GARDNER.

Extracts.

THE REBELLION IN JAPAN.

The *Osaka Nippo* publishes a letter from Kagoshima, dated the 3rd inst., which says that since the fall of Miyakanojo into the Imperial hands the rebels seem to be gradually weaker. It appears to be true that Saigo and Kirino are in Nobeoka in command. The saying goes that they intend to try their final battle there. Nobeoka stands between mountains, with its face to a river, the other three sides being level. It must be difficult for them to fortify themselves in the castle, after they have lost their mountain forts. It is due to the skill of H.E. Yamagata and H.E. Kawamura that the rebels have to fight their final battle there. Ilayami, Murata and Kijima are also in that town, attending at headquarters. It is impossible for them to escape to the westward, and they are therefore preparing to retreat to Bungo in great force. In regard of this, the fighting in Bungo is severe. The Commander-in-chief in the Bungo roads is General Tani and his Aide-de-camp Colonel Oyama. Notices have been posted in Kagoshima that persons who have been burned out will receive yen 7 or 8 each towards rebuilding their huts.—The same paper says the rebel lines are narrowing day by day. They are now in a small spot in the Eastern corner of Hiuga, a district 12 ri in length and 6 ri in width. Therefore, though Saigo, Kirino, Ikegami and Kijima are still alive at the head of over 10,000 men, the end of them will soon be seen.—A man who has lately returned from the scene of fighting to Osaka says that the present fearless rebel shizoku of Satsuma number only about 2,000, but that they have more than 8,000 farmers along with them; though the rebel lines are being contracted

they cannot hold them with less than 10,000 men.

The *Cosmopolitan Press* says so far as the Japanese insurrection is concerned Saigo's fate is sealed. He is now hemmed in, and notwithstanding his martial ardour and military skill he will find it difficult to disentangle himself from the network which now surrounds him. Saturday's advices announce slight skirmishing in Hinga, and that the Imperial Commander-in-chief is most sanguine of stamping out the rising ere the close of another week.—The same paper adds that, according to a telegram of the 12th, the army under the command of Yamada, which had advanced from Hitooyoshi, had defeated the rebels at Nobeoka. This is clearly indicative of the end, as it was their last stronghold; they are now scattered all over Bungo, totally demoralised, and but little resistance can be expected in their final extirpation.—Throughout the past week large numbers of convalescent wounded have left the Nagasaki Hospitals for their respective homes. The Government have now no need for their services, and orders have already been issued for a large reduction in the standing army.

The *Press* says that three ri from Sadowara is a place called Mimidzu. The Imperialists had advanced to this place. They fired upon the rebels on the opposite side of the river and repulsed them; more than a thousand rebels capitulated at one time. After they had given themselves up they were set free. The number of rebels now remaining amounts to about 2,850. The Imperialists often advised them to surrender stating that with the exception of the leaders they would be treated leniently, but not one would do so. The rebels are determined either to die in battle or to commit harakiri. This alone engrosses their attention.

A number of details are given of prior movements, but they convey little impression to the general reader; and the above, as pointing to the actual position, are the most important. The recent capture of the Castle of Miyakanojo seems to have been a very serious blow to the rebel cause; and this, according to the *Akibono Shimbun*, was effected by the following ruse:—It appears that the castle was so strongly defended that the Imperial forces at first despaired of ever being able to carry it by assault. However, two young Lieutenants, named respectively Okumura and Ono, put their heads together in order to devise some means of surprising the enemy's stronghold, being fully alive to the fact that should the Imperial forces be compelled to invest this castle for a lengthened period, it would seriously interfere with the suppression of the rebellion. The two young men secretly induced eighty privates to join them in their enterprise, and without the knowledge of their superiors made a *détour* by night, and approached the castle from the direction opposite to where the Imperialists were posted. On nearing the rebel sentries this little band was challenged, whereupon one of the leaders called out in a loud voice, "Men, here is a castle held by the Imperialists. Let us make a desperate attack on it and endeavour to take it, so that we may be rewarded by our Commander Kirino." This being overheard by the rebels, orders were given to admit the band to the castle, as they were supposed to be insurgents from another part of the country, and their presence looked upon as a welcome reinforcement. An entry once obtained an attack was made on the duped rebels, and so much uproar and confusion ensued, that the din was heard by the Imperialists in the town, who, supposing the rebels to have fallen out among themselves, hastened to seize the opportunity of attacking the castle in force, and eventually were successful in carrying it by assault. After the Imperialists had obtained full possession of the castle they discovered how much they owed to the fearlessness and bravery of a small body of their own men, of whom, alas! but few survived to give an account of the success of this forlorn hope. Amongst those of them, too, who lost their lives were the two intrepid young leaders.

THE WAR IN THE NORTH-WEST.

(*The Standard.*)

Actual hostilities have taken place between the Chinese and Yakob Beg in the neighbourhood of Turfan, and the contest, which

has been imminent for several months, may be now said to have fairly commenced. The result of the fighting up to our last information confirms the view we have on several occasions recently expressed, that Yakob Beg would in all probability be unable, unless he received aid either from Russia or from England, to successfully oppose the advancing tide of Chinese conquest. The character of the Emir himself, and the natural strength of the frontier which he had to defend, were, no doubt, great points in his favour, and it was probable that the Chinese would have no easy task in destroying the State erected in Eastern Turkestan by the Athalik Ghazi. Making allowance for the force of these considerations, the chances of the contest remained rather on the side of the Chinese than on that of Yakob Beg. If we had only done as much for him after the return of the Forsyth Embassy as it is supposed by some we are willing to do now, there can be no doubt that the Chinese might have been induced by our representations to have rested content with the pacification of Kansuh and the outlying districts north of the Tian Shan range. Under the existing circumstances nothing less than the total subjection of Kashgaria will satisfy them. The moment has passed by, therefore, when we could think of intervening between the Chinese and their foe, and we have only to continue the impartial but attentive witnesses of the struggle that is even at this moment proceeding. The latest authentic items of intelligence that we had previously received were derived from the Russian mission which had been sent to Kashgar, and which had visited Yakob Beg at his headquarters at Turfan. Captain Kuropatkin, the officer entrusted with the charge of the embassy, on his return to Tashkent, published his opinion on the approaching crisis. He stated that the Kashgarian army did not exceed 26,000 men in all; that it was uncertain how far it could be trusted to remain faithful to its chief, and that the artillery, which in number appeared to be formidable, was of little use for the want of the proper ammunition. He did not hesitate to assert, in somewhat unmeasured terms, his conviction that there was little prospect of Yakob Beg being able to cope with success with the Chinese, who were employing, in addition to their military preparations, diplomatic measures to sap the foundations of that potentate's position, by holding out inducements to his followers to abandon his cause. We knew, on the other hand, that the Chinese were at Guchen, about eighty miles from Turfan on the other side of the Tian Shan range; that they had arrived at this point after a successful campaign over the Tunggani, the Mahometan rebels of Kansuh, and that their General was sparing no effort to increase his army both in numbers and in warlike strength. There was every reason for supposing that even in numbers they greatly exceeded any force that the utmost endeavours of Yakob Beg could bring against them.

Under these known conditions there seemed to be little doubt of the final result; for the desperation with which Yakob Beg would fight for his very existence could not, of course, compensate for the great inferiority of his strength in every way to the Chinese. Until, however, the receipt of the latest intelligence from Central Asia, it must have remained doubtful what the real strength of the Chinese was. Yakob Beg might not have a very formidable army under him, but the Chinese might have found themselves, after an expedition of three years, during which they had fought several battles and more sieges, too exhausted to attempt the invasion of a territory with a strong natural frontier, and defended by so formidable an antagonist as Yakob Beg. This surmise has now been removed from the region of uncertainty by the successful forcing of the Tian Shan range by General Kin Shun. The Chinese attacked the Devan defile, which leads direct from Guchen to Turfan; and although this had been fortified, and was garrisoned by Beg Bacha, Yakob Beg's son, with a select corps of 6,000 men, the attack has been crowned with success. The assailants then pressed onwards, and entered Turfan, which is not many miles inland. Whether Yakob Beg evacuated Turfan without risking a battle, or whether he was expelled from this town by force, does not appear; but we incline to the belief that, his position having been rendered untenable

by the forcing of the Tian Shan and the fall of Fort Taksun, he retired along the Yarkand road in the direction of Kucha and Aksu. He still in all probability will be able to encounter the Chinese army once more in the field, unless, indeed, he should meet with the fate which so soon follows a reverse in the history of all Eastern potentates, and pay the debt of nature to the hands of an assassin, and not to those people to whom during his life he had proved his antipathy so well. But it is incontestable that his chief line of defence has been pierced through, and between his capital and the conqueror there remains nothing but the distance and his own shattered forces. Yarkand is nearly nine hundred miles distant from Turfan; and it is possible that much might occur in the interval occupied in marching that distance. Yakob Beg himself can scarcely hope to resist successfully in less favourable positions an army that has ousted him from the difficult country round Turfan; but we cannot feel so confident of what the Russians will do in the meanwhile.

The Chinese are following up as rapidly as possible their first success, we may be sure, and every day may bring us news of the fall of Aksu and of a forced march on Yarkand. The *Turkestan Gazette*, to which we are indebted for this information, does not say when the fall of Turfan took place; but a comparison of dates brings it to about the end of April. As, however, the arrival of intelligence adverse to the Emir would be retarded, it is very possible that it occurred some weeks earlier. If the Chinese had advanced immediately, the tide of war ought to have rolled long ere this so much to the westward that news ought to arrive in nearly half the time; but as Yakob Beg may have devastated the country along his line of retreat, it is natural to suppose that the Chinese would then have to halt some weeks at Turfan to establish depots and to secure their own communications with Guchen. They may also desire to permit the disintegrating causes in Kashgar to have time to operate in their favour, for we may feel certain that already they are discussing the possibilities of being embroiled with a far different antagonist than the Emir, and that they are consequently very anxious to effect their object with as little loss as possible. They have, however, added yet another achievement to their previous successes, and the forcing of the Tian Shan will raise their enthusiasm to a higher pitch than before. They will flatter themselves that they are invincible, and we may assert that counsels of moderation will have little attention in their discussions of the future. The chief uncertainty in the future is no longer whether the Chinese can conquer Yakob Beg or not, for of that they have already given sufficient earnest, but whether General Kaufmann will continue his hitherto passive attitude. The Kashgarian envoy now at Tashkent imploring assistance is receiving nothing but hospitable treatment, and a few weeks back the *Turkestan Gazette* declared that the Russians were fully resolved to let their neighbours settle their difficulty between them. But since that expression of opinion the Chinese invasion has been successful, and it is quite possible that the Russian Government may now arrive at a contrary decision. It is not unlikely that if the Chinese advance be rapid and their success complete, the Russians will acquiesce in the change, and will send a message of congratulation to the victors at Kashgar; if, on the other hand, for some unforeseen reason or other, such as the scarcity of provisions, it should be tardy and protracted, and yet at the same time Yakob Beg should be indisputably unable to offer any resistance in the field, we should not be surprised to hear that the Russians had entered Kashgar "to maintain order." But it is not necessary at present to dive so deeply into the future. The Chinese army is advancing, or at all events preparing to advance, across the plains of Central Asia, the power of Yakob Beg has received a shock from which it is doubtful whether under any circumstances it can recover, the fate of his kingdom and his family is trembling in the balance, and the Russian authorities are trifling with his emissary while his master is being expelled from possessions which it cost him years of sacrifice and bloodshed to secure. We ourselves are about to despatch a Resident Minister to this State, and he will arrive just in time to remind the victorious Chinese that we have

some interest in the welfare of Kashgar, and to impress upon them the necessity for using their success with moderation.

CHINESE NAVAL EXPENDITURE.

(Daily Press.)

We have no means of knowing how far the *Whitehall Review* is to be relied upon for the correctness of its information, but it evidently obtains its military and naval intelligence from tolerably authentic sources. The announcement that the Government of Peking has lately been negotiating for ironclads, and that several large British ship-building firms will shortly be employed in executing Chinese orders, will be rather surprising to those who know what the present condition of the Imperial Treasury at Peking is like. Ironclads cost money, as even the British Government knows full well, and the wealthiest of nations have to think twice before they incur the enormous expense attending the acquisition of a navy. China is not rich, and cannot indulge in such luxury without feeling much straitened for money. It has been with the utmost possible difficulty that she has raised funds for the prosecution of the war with the Ameer of Kashgar. The sinews of war have, indeed, only been obtained by extraordinary devices, such as the sale to wealthy natives of posthumous honours for their deceased relatives and titles for the living. Such methods as these cannot be resorted to very often, nor yet is it advisable—as has been done recently in the province of Fokien to relieve the sufferers from the late inundation—to levy forced contributions on the rich mercantile community. It may answer very well, once in a way, to make these forced contributions, for the merchants and traders dare not attempt to offer open opposition to the mandate of the Dragon Throne; but their murmuring is deep if not loud, and the loyalty of the “squeezed” people is not improved by the arbitrary steps taken to make them contribute to the cost of a war in which they have not the slightest interest or concern. Then, again, the various disasters which have lately overtaken different parts of the Empire, such as famine, flood, and fire, have done much to impoverish it. Nor is the prospect for the next season a cheering one in the northern provinces. Drought, hail, and locusts have, conjointly, destroyed the crops in various districts, rendering it certain that the people in many parts of Chihli, Shantung, and Shanai, if not also in Kiangsu and Anhwei, will require assistance to get through next winter. In the presence of this contingency, and the circumstance that the treasury is just now empty, the purchase of additional ironclads by the Chinese Government would be unwarrantable extravagance, and we trust the report to that effect is incorrect. If the authorities at Peking had a plethora of money and wished to lay it out in improving the country, there are plenty of ways of doing so without entering upon a hopeless competition with Western Powers in naval armaments. At the present moment China is almost without roads, for the miserable tracks which pass for such are unworthy of the name. It was for want of means of transport into the interior that so many persons died of starvation recently in Shantung. At a time when there was plenty of grain on the coast, no facilities existed for sending it inland at any sort of speed; and while the supplies were slowly coming in vast numbers of people perished. Had there been a few good roads along which carts or waggons could travel at a fair rate—or, still better, had there been a railway through the province—the mortality would not have been nearly so serious. But the men at the helm of affairs in China believe that the country can do without roads; it has done without for centuries; why should they begin to construct them now? But gunboats and big guns are dear to the heart of the Viceroy of Chihli, and he takes a childish delight in multiplying them at any cost. It matters little to him that there is not the wherewithal in the Imperial coffers to pay for them. The Chinese Government can borrow; let it negotiate another loan. China needs a fleet in order to keep pace with the “barbarians”; why not borrow money from them to pay for it? Thus, doubtless, argue the mandarins who think with Li.

BRITISH CONSULAR REPORTS ON TRADE IN JAPAN.

(Japan Mail.)

Turning first to Mr. Flowers' report of the trade of Nagasaki, we find that the Import Trade which has for some years been gradually decreasing, again shows a lamentable falling off from that of the previous year, the total value of imports for 1876 exceeding that of 1876 by \$461,891, an enormous difference in a port like Nagasaki. The supposition that the large purchases made in former years, much in excess of native requirements and thereby causing the accumulation of large stocks in the interior, are the cause of the apparent falling off, however correct it may have been in accounting for the decrease of the trade in several preceding years, can scarcely hold good in the present instance, as such stocks must long since have become exhausted. Mr. Flowers is therefore forced to the belief—and his views entirely coincide with those we have always expressed—that to the severe taxation to which the people are subjected, and the heavy land tax, all the more hard to meet since its collection in money has been decreed instead of in kind as formerly, is the diminution of trade to be attributed. Let any one take the trouble to turn to the article on Rice in our issue of the 14th instant and continued in our present number, and it will be seen that we have there endeavoured to show how the farmers suffer under the exactions of the Government in collecting the tax on rice-lands in currency instead of in kind. Both the mode of collection and the weight of the taxation are killing to the energies of the agricultural class, the real bread winners of the country, and not only are they unable to save anything, but in too many cases are reduced to starvation point.

Mr. Flowers also shows how ruinous to trade is the system of centralization pursued by the Government, which is also one of the great grievances complained of by the movers for reform. Take the appeal of the *Rishisha* and compare it with Mr. Flowers' remarks, and it will be seen that both the latter and the writer of the Memorial hold precisely the same views with regard to the evils of centralization. “Taxation absorbs too much of the surplus earnings of the country, and a fair share of the revenue is not devoted to the carrying out of useful practical improvements, likely to increase the national wealth and productiveness.” Thus writes Mr. Flowers. Schools and agricultural experiments, says the writer of the Memorial, are all very excellent things in their way, but when such ideas are carried out to an extravagant extent at the expense of the people, their only effect is to stir up much ill-will. The present Government only succeeds in rendering bankrupt the dwellers in cities while the farming classes are reduced to utter poverty.

As we remarked in our review of the *Rishisha* Memorial, there can be little doubt that a great portion of the evils at present existing in the country result from centralization. The farmer has no means of making his troubles heard or of getting his grievances redressed. His hardly earned gains are wrung from him by officials who neither sympathize with his troubles nor listen to his complaints, and it is therefore little wonder that the population of the interior have no money to spend in buying even the commonest foreign goods.

Now if we turn to Mr. Robertson's Report for Kanagawa, we find that the same unsatisfactory state of things prevails. The Import Trade of 1876 falls below that of 1875 by \$3,112,029; though the actual falling off is only \$260,805, as there is a decrease of articles on Government account amounting to \$2,498,251. Still the same conclusion is arrived at that we find in the former report, namely, that the capital at the command of most of the native merchants is so extremely small that they are unable to purchase as fully as in former years.

The Osaka Trade Report shows the same falling off, there being a decrease of \$1,605,950 in the Returns of the year 1876 as compared with the previous year. Mr. Annesley, however, seems to think that the consumption of foreign goods in that district has by no means diminished, but that owing to cheap steam-boat freight, native traders have availed themselves more extensively of the facilities

afforded them to buy in Yokohama. He also points out that the Chinese are enabled to become formidable competitors with the foreign import trade, by purchasing goods so cheaply at auctions in China as to enable them to effect sales to the natives at prices far below those of the foreign importer.

With regard to export trade, the figures in the Nagasaki Report still show a decline, though the falling off is far less than in imports. Thus we have a reduction last year on the preceding one of \$199,630, which again was less than the trade of 1874 by \$533,572, altogether anything but a satisfactory showing.

Although Tea shows a considerable increase in quantity, there is a sad decrease in its value of \$138,116, owing to the fall in value which has everywhere taken place. We have always asserted that in view of the United States being the only market that will take Japan Tea, it was absurd to suppose that the fictitious prices that they once commanded could be maintained as the supply increased. At the prices ruling a few years ago there was nothing that promised such rich returns to the native cultivator as tea, and hence in every district plantations were laid out and the means of supply enormously enlarged. But with such increased supply has naturally come the fall in value, and until the production is checked by prices that make the cultivation of the common grades impracticable for export purposes, there can be no hope of a paying trade for either grower or buyer. Mr. Annesley remarks that there are already signs that further development of this industry has been checked by the present low prices.

In his Kanagawa Report Mr. Robertson shows that the Export of Tea for 1876 fell considerably below the export of 1875, there being a decrease of 18,421 piculs in quantity and of \$1,340,280 in value. He also calls attention to the evils arising from over production, and states that many native merchants have decided to abandon tea culture in some districts, and use the land for other and better paying crops. We had occasion some time ago to call attention to an experiment that was about to be made in the south to prepare Black Tea under Chinese supervision. Experts, to whom samples had been previously submitted, formed the opinion that the experiment would not be attended with success when it was sought to produce such tea in any quantity. The tea was in most cases very inferior to China Blacks, and where at all equal, so much higher in price as entirely to preclude its introduction into the market. Mr. Robertson, we see, takes the same view, that no encouragement can be held out that this will prove a successful branch of industry.

Mr. Annesley has also to report decrease at Kobe in this article of produce, and takes occasion to remark that the demand in the United States does not keep pace with the production on this side. Unless the Japanese will recognise this simple fact and limit their production it is useless for them to look for higher prices.

But it is at Osaka that the most marked falling off in Trade is to be noticed, and it is not cheering to learn that it continues to decrease. In 1874 the Exports amounted to \$566,537, in 1875 to \$225,021, and in 1876 to only \$99,722. In Imports the decrease since 1875 is about \$200,000. The foreign residents have dwindled down from 79 in 1875 to 44 in 1876, and there is now not a single British firm left in the place, all having removed to Hiogo since the opening of the railroad.

But it is needless for us to follow out all the items of these reports. After their perusal one cannot feel that the foreign merchants of Japan have any very brilliant future before them. The golden dreams in which so many of us indulged ten years ago have faded like other visions, and we have awakened fully to the stern and ugly facts that we are an unwealthy community struggling for a living in an impoverished country. It is no good disputing the truth. It is not merely the common everyday talk of “hard times,” and “things dull” which can always be heard from grumblers when business is at its best. We are not only in a very bad way at present, but the future seems unpierced by any ray of hope. Until a more liberal policy prevails in the administration of this country it is, we fear, useless to hope for any lasting improvement.

The commerce of Japan is evidently languishing, and although these Reports are everything that a Trade Report should be, and are compiled with the care which always characterizes them, to use Mr. Flowers' own words and to apply them to the whole, they necessarily strike one as very unsatisfactory to those who are looking and waiting for the revival of business.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(Supplied to the "Daily Press.")

London, 9th August.

Mr. William Henry Smith, M.P. for Westminster, has been appointed First Lord of the Admiralty.

The Emperor of Germany and the Emperor of Austria have met at Ischl.

The participation of Greece and Servia in the present war is considered certain.

10th Aug.

In both Houses of Parliament motions that have been put on the subject of the Eastern Question have been withdrawn as injurious to public interests.

It is declared that the policy of the Government will continue as heretofore, viz: non-interference [our interests in?] the Eastern Question remain unaffected.

According to an official Turkish despatch, Russian troops made an attack on Lovatz, in which they were defeated and compelled to fall back.

13th August.

In the House of Commons, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in reply to a question, said that England's Eastern policy is one of strict neutrality, subject to what contingencies may arise.

The Russians have evacuated, and the Turks have occupied, the Balkan passes of Huin Boghaz and Queridich.

The Russian head-quarters have been transferred to Bulgareni.

Suleiman Pasha has received reinforcements, and is endeavouring to co-operate with the Commander-in-chief of the Turkish Army.

Demonstrations in favour of war are being made at Athens.

The interview between the Emperors of Austria and Germany at Ischl is considered to have testified that these two countries are at one accord on the present question.

14th August.

Latest advices from the seat of war announce that Suleiman Pasha, having reinforced his troops, has taken the offensive against the Russians, and has already crossed the Balkans.

Much sickness prevails among the Russian troops in Bulgaria and the Dobruja.

Clippings.

Captain Scott, of the steamer *Argyll*, has been presented with a handsomely worked silk flag, by a deputation representing the Chinese passengers brought up by the *Argyll* from Singapore and Penang on her last trip. A man died during the passage, and his companions asked the Captain to bring the body on to Hongkong instead of burying it at sea. To this request the captain acceded, and it was to express their gratitude for this and other acts of kindness that the passengers made this present. The flag is inscribed with the names of Captain Scott and some of his officers, and records the fact that they have "complete hearts." The presentation was made on board on Saturday last, amid the firing of a great number of crackers.—*Daily Press*.

Our readers were no doubt somewhat astonished to see, by our yesterday's issue, that the German (erroneously reported as Danish) brig *Oceanus* had, whilst on her voyage from Hakodate to this port, been boarded, and her papers examined by an officer from a Russian gunboat. That the latter was acting perfectly legally in doing this we are well aware, but the puzzle is to discover what was the object of the Russian commander in exercising this right. There is, so far as we are aware, no war as yet between Russia and England; there is not a Turkish vessel of any description on

the coast, nor has there ever been one in our recollection, unless the Tunisian steamer *Zadik* could have been classed as such. Surely the Russian commander does not expect to find arms and ammunition exported, in small brigs, from Hakodate to Turkey, if so he must have a rather vague idea of the products of Yesso, even if a little sulphur is found there.—*Japan Herald*.

The loss of two steamers within so short a time at Cape Guardafui seems to point to the necessity for a light-house being erected there without further delay. We learn from the *Times* of India that this question has often been raised before. Both the Government of India and the Bombay Government have recommended it, and Sir Battle Frere, on his return from Zanzibar, added a similar recommendation. The Admiral on the East India station has reported on the necessity for a light there, and the Underwriters' Association and the Bombay Chamber of Commerce have done the same. The difficulty is said to be, whose duty it is to erect the light-house. The Government of Egypt declines to incur the expense, as the country belongs to the Somalis; so probably, when some more wrecks have occurred, including a Viceroy on his way to or from India, the British Government will commence operations.

The old king of Burmah has a grim sense of humour at times. For instance, the weather had been intensely hot for a long time at Mandalay, and though the king consulted his Brahmin soothsayers daily, and they promised him rain without fail on the next day, it failed to come as promised. For about a week, His Majesty sweated and swore, and then his patience was exhausted, and in his rage he ordered half a dozen of these false prophets to be immersed up to their necks in a tank of water in the palace square, and to be kept there until the rain really came; and they thus had a bath of three days when the downfall of a shower released them. A correspondent of a Rangoon paper relates this as a fact, adding that these unwilling Baptists were allowed to be fed by their friends, but in the water, so I suppose the latter had extra bathing as well during the three days.

According to the *New Zealand Herald*, Samoa, one of the islands of the Navigators' Group, in the South Pacific Ocean, has been annexed to the United States. It says:—

"The American flag has been hoisted at Samoa, and unless the action of the Consul is repudiated by the authorities at Washington, the islands of the Navigators' Group will henceforward have to be accounted as in the possession of the American Government. A short time ago we gave the particulars connected with the visit of several Samoan chiefs to Fiji, whither they had gone to endeavour to persuade Governor Sir Arthur Gordon to take possession of Samoa for Great Britain. Apparently, the Samoan chiefs had not got any encouragement, for, on their return home, the American Consul (Mr. Griffin) commenced negotiations to have the American flag hoisted. All the preliminaries were completed on the night of the 23rd of May, a number of documents having been signed, and on the morning of the 24th the American flag was hoisted at the King's house, at Point Molinu, on the east side of Apia Harbour. A salute of twenty-one guns was fired from the other side of the harbour."

The "Navigators" are a group of eight islands lying between 13.30° and 14.30° S. and 168° to 173° W. They are fertile and populous.

The doings of the Chinese Ambassadors in London are narrowly watched and duly recorded by the club papers. Scarcely a week passes without some reference is made to them. The latest anecdote is the following in the *World*:—"The state concert was a delightful one. Medames Albani, Nilsson, and Scalchi, Miss Robertson, Signori Rota and Tamberlik, atoned for the unfortunate absence of Mlle. Titiens and the *diva* Patti. But there was one accompaniment which was uncalled for and unmusical. At the moment when Albani was delighting the aristocratic audience with her finest notes—in that thrilling song 'Caro

nome,' one of the gems from 'Rigoletto'—an awful sound startled the august assembly. His Excellency the Chinese Vice-Minister, unaccustomed to European music, had indulged in a sound nap, and suddenly awakened uttered a half-snooze, half-groan, which was awfully out of harmony. His Excellency once astonished the House of Commons during an interesting debate with a similar exhibition of his powers of discord; and it is to be devoutly hoped that he may be told, in language befitting his high rank, and without any insult to his diplomatic privilege, that in Europe violent snoring is not usually indulged in on such public occasions. In the House of Commons there might be some excuse for somnolency, but the soft influence of Albani should have had better results."

A Swatow correspondent of the *Daily Press*, writing under date of Aug. 9th, says:—"On Sunday we had a falling glass and Northerly wind, with every appearance of bad weather. Monday, although there was no wind, was a nasty uncertain day, but nothing to prevent vessels from working, and but for the very low barometer the weather appeared fine. Tuesday, being the Emperor of China's birthday, was held as a holiday by the Customs, and the two men-of-war in port, *Nassau* and *Chento*, dressed ship with ensigns at each mast-head; weather dull and threatening but still a falling barometer. The *Hailong* sent her top-masts down, and many of the sailing vessels sent their yards down, as did also the *Chento*. About 1 p.m. the *Chento* got underweigh and steamed up the river, followed some hours later by the *Nassau*, they being determined to get into a snug anchorage; the barometer now very low, 29.54, wind Easterly, and appearances threatening; midnight, rain in torrents, with squalls from the Eastward. Wednesday came in with same weather, which lasted all day; at noon the barometer commenced to rise but not much; rain still very heavy, with squalls from the Eastward; midnight, weather much better. Thursday, weather still unsettled, although barometer continued to rise. *Hailong* left early in the morning, and *Namoa* about 11 a.m. We are anxious to hear how you fared, for there must have been bad weather about, and it was predicted that to-day Hongkong was to be visited by a storm that would totally destroy the place."

Rumours, says the Portland (Oregon) *Bee*, are rife on the streets concerning a most remarkable discovery of silver in Wasco County. The stories floating about tell of nothing less than acres of boiling springs which, instead of water, flow streams of chloride of silver. Shiploads of a precious metal are reported to be in sight, in the shape of soapy gray substance, somewhat resembling quicksilver. The molten masses bubble and boil with escaping gases. The substance is so heavy that a stone will not sink in it, but a stick or crowbar may be forced down into the pools of wealth several feet, when the immense gravity of the mass will throw it back into the air like an arrow shot from an Indian's bow. At least a hundred and sixty acres are covered with these springs, ranging from a few feet to a hundred yards apart. Each one is surrounded with a rim of crystallised silver. The depth has not yet been imagined, but the vast wealth in sight is enough to make every man in Oregon a bonanza king. All you have to do is to back a cart up to the edge of your spring and load it with money. Some people may think we are drawing on our own imagination for these statements, but such is not the case. We merely tell what we hear. Some of the silver amalgam, said to be from these fabulous springs, has positively been assayed by a gentleman in this city, and pronounced to be precipitated chloride of silver, worth 9,000 dollars per ton. If this should be true, the Comstock lode would not be worth working, Nevada would be deserted, and the silver springs of Oregon become the wonder of the world. The original discoverers are said to have been in the city purchasing supplies, and to have departed by the Dallas boat this morning, while a rival party has been fitted out by others, who claim to know the whereabouts of the "find," who go by pony express by the way of Albany and the Miuto Pass, to get ahead of the others.

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1877-8.

TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.						TO GREAT BRITAIN, &c.—Continued.					
VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Glencagles	May 23	London	20,510.89	.....	20,510.89	Cathay	July 7	Bombay	6.67	.....	6.67
Loudoun Castle	" 23	"	19,007.02	.....	19,007.02	Anadyr	" 14	Marseilles	7.81	.....	7.81
Glenartney	" 25	"	17,003.75	.....	17,003.75	"	" 14	London	2,476.54	381.93	2,858.47
Tartar	" 25	"	15,648.20	.....	15,648.20	"	" 14	"	5,870.29	653.88	6,524.17
Braemar Castle	" 29	"	18,229.78	.....	18,229.78	"	" 14	Suez	1.00	.....	1.00
Glenlyon	June 1	"	17,500.68	.....	17,500.68	"	" 14	Singapore	2.76	.....	2.76
J. R. Worcesters, v.	" 1	"	8,717.53	.....	8,717.53	"	" 14	Hongkong	2.80	.....	2.80
Ava	" 2	"	1,006.16	.....	1,006.16	"	" 14	London	13,354.12	.....	13,354.12
"	" 2	"	5.21	.....	5.21	"	" 19	"	12,080.65	.....	12,080.65
Radnorshire	" 4	London	15,475.97	.....	15,475.97	"	" 21	"	3,561.35	739.46	4,300.81
Cutty Sark	" 6	"	10,001.20	.....	10,001.20	"	" 21	Continent	1.09	.....	1.09
Stad Amsterdam, s.	" 6	"	17,336.22	.....	17,336.22	"	" 21	Australia	43.26	.....	43.26
Hankow	" 7	"	27,061.81	.....	27,061.81	"	" 21	Manila	1.60	.....	1.60
Kashgar	" 9	"	3,698.72	.....	3,698.72	"	" 21	Bombay	112.38	43.26	155.64
"	" 9	Bombay	.....	30.19	30.19	"	" 27	London	6,191.65	125.54	6,317.19
Priam	" 9	London	10,532.17	.....	10,532.17	"	" 28	"	6,017.80	.....	6,017.80
Menzaleh	" 14	"	6,720.47	.....	6,720.47	"	" 28	"	9,204.17	.....	9,204.17
Cairnsmuir	" 11	"	14,593.56	.....	14,593.56	"	" 28	"	489.50	518.57	1,008.07
Amazone	" 16	"	2,124.00	.....	2,124.00	"	" 31	"	16,684.42	554.42	17,238.84
Amazon	" 16	Bombay	34.74	48.29	83.03	"	Aug. 4	"	11,565.04	181.70	11,746.74
Diomed	" 19	London	10,765.70	65.65	10,831.35	"	" 4	Hamburg	75.50	.....	75.50
Vesta	" 18	Nicolajefsk	2,172.13	.....	2,172.13	"	" 4	London	5,864.36	1,247.37	7,111.73
Windhover	" 23	London	8,365.04	.....	8,365.04	"	" 4	Bombay	0.90	108.42	109.32
Oceanic	" 23	Nicolajefsk	1,549.99	.....	1,549.99	"	" 11	London	3,669.94	.....	3,669.94
Teheran	" 23	London	4,505.42	1,208.29	5,713.71	"	" 11	"	1,437.08	719.62	2,156.70
"	" 23	Bombay	22.82	10.90	33.72	"	" 11	Marseilles	0.80	.....	0.80
"	" 23	Hongkong	13.77	.....	13.77	"	" 11	London	1,546.85	375.85	1,922.70
Gordon Castle	" 23	London	16,014.57	441.54	16,456.11	"	" 16	"	10,024.77	233.08	10,257.85
Glengyle	" 25	"	13,183.09	122.38	13,305.47	"	" 18	"	3,595.43	1,677.99	5,273.42
Menelaus	" 30	"	7,376.42	327.96	7,704.38	"	" 18	Bombay	102.72	.....	102.72
Hoogly	July 1	Marseilles	20.27	.....	20.27	"	" 20	London	1,354.02	.....	1,354.02
"	" 1	Lyons	8.70	.....	8.70	"	" 20	"	6,047.06	.....	6,047.06
Thermopylae	" 6	"	2,182.10	262.75	2,444.85						
Cathay	" 7	"	7,508.71	.....	7,508.71						
			5,136.39	1,135.14	6,271.53				409,631.20	10,431.46	420,062.66

EXPORT OF TEAS FROM SHANGHAI AND RIVER PORTS.—SEASON 1877-8.

TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.						TO JAPAN AND COAST PORTS AND AMERICA.—Continued.					
VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.	VESSEL'S NAME.	DATE	CLEARED FOR	BLACK.	GREEN.	TOTAL.
			Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.				Piculs.	Piculs.	Piculs.
Priam	June 9	New York	387.40	14.32	401.72	Tokio Maru	July 25	New York	38.78	681.31	720.09
Diomed	" 19	"	458.86	.....	458.86	Glenorchy	" 28	"	3,982.91	8,660.31	12,643.22
Nagoya Maru	" 19	"	2,272.62	420.29	2,692.91	Saikio Maru	" 31	"	1.20	343.05	344.25
"	" 19	Nagasaki	3.86	.....	3.86	Nagoya Maru	Aug. 7	Yokohama	2.24	.....	2.24
Tokio Maru	" 29	New York	538.39	2,193.05	2,731.44	Stentor	" 11	New York	.....	35.00	35.00
"	" 29	Nagasaki	17.52	.....	17.52	Stratheden	" 17	"	1.44	113.13	114.47
"	" 29	Hioogo	1.40	.....	1.40	Glamis Castle	" 18	"	1.31	2,805.13	2,806.44
Menelaus	" 30	New York	451.74	719.22	1,170.96	Tokio Maru	" 21	"	.....	10.80	10.80
Hiroshima Maru	July 10	Yokohama	17.01	.....	17.01	"	" 21	San Francisco	53.14	.....	53.14
Dragon	" 14	W' diostock	97.35	.....	97.35	"	" 21	Chicago	.....	233.98	233.98
John Nicholson	" 19	New York	571.36	.....	571.36						
Nagoya Maru	" 17	"	195.05	872.19	1,067.24				8,327.17	16,229.59	24,556.76

SHANGHAI SILK AND OPIUM RETURNS, FOR SEASON COMMENCING JUNE 1, 1877.

FROM IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS.

SILK.

	To GREAT BRITAIN.	To MARSEILLES AND CONTINENT.	To AMERICA.	To HONG-KONG, COAST PORTS, &c.	TOTAL CHINA.	JAPAN TRANS SHIPPED.	GRAND TOTAL.
	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.	Bales.
Total as per last Report	1,299	346	179	498	2,322	..	2,322
Subsequent Shipments	427	28	154	51	660	..	660
Total	1,726	374	333	549	2,982	..	2,982

OPIUM.

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 18TH AUGUST, 1877.

				MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.	
IMPORTED				Cheats.	Weight.	Cheats.	Weight.	Cheats.	Weight.	Cheats.	Weight.
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels				968	968.00	250	300.00	230	276.00	..	..
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....				968	968.00	250	300.00	230	276.00	..	..
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption				32½	82.50	143	171.60	62	74.40	..	..
Landed direct				..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Description.		Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Focchow.	Total.
RE-EXPORTED.		Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.
Malwa.....		116 116.00	25 25.00	45 45.00	33 33.00	93½ 93.50	94 94.00	..	167 167.00	..	573½ 573.50
Patna.....		10 12.00	..	..	5 6.00	1 1.20	5 6.00	..	2 2.40	..	23 27.60
Benares.....		9 10.50	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 2.40	..	11 13.20
Persian.....		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total.....		195 198.80	25 25.00	45 45.00	38 39.00	94½ 94.70	99 100.00	..	171 171.80	..	607½ 614.30

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 24TH AUGUST, 1877.

ARRIVALS.—The steamers *Nestor* from Liverpool, and *Cassandra* from London. Also from London the sailing vessels *Corea*, *Duke of Abercorn*, and *Wigton*.

PIECE GOODS.—The past week has been one of almost unbroken quiet in this market. For dulness it has not been equalled since China New-Year. Scarcely a transaction worthy of note has taken place, and the aggregate value of the whole private business published since 17th instant would not be considered a respectable total for one day in ordinary times. But the particulars, which are as follows, can speak for themselves.

Grey Shirtings—7-lbs.—About 7,000 pieces at from Tl. 0.97½ a 1.02½ per piece. For *Pillar* chop Tls. 1.05 has been declined. 8½-lbs. 27,000 pieces—amongst which figure prominently 12,000 pieces of *Double Lion* at Tls. 1.38½, which rate, however, is for early clearance and covers mildew if there be any found in the parcel. Dewhurst's *Eagle* appears at Tls. 1.86, and the *Lion-on-Bale* at Tls. 1.59 per piece. *Pillar* has realised Tls. 1.39½ and Tls. 1.38½, and the *Lee-Tai Cock* has fetched Tls. 1.27½. The demand for the lower grades—noticed in my last report—has continued, but buyers—although the stock is much reduced and its holders are firm—refuse to improve upon the quotations then given. 9½ a 10-lbs., 4,000 pieces, FFF Dewhurst's best *Eagle* at Tls. 2.63, and in favor, and Tls. 2.35 for *Tai-Wo Stag*.

White Shirtings.—Nothing.

T-Cloths.—Of all weights—under 15,000 pieces at Tls. 1.07½ a 1.10 for *Gold Ship* and the *Lion and Flag* quality of 7-lbs. ordinary Mexican; Tl. 0.81½ for fair Medium 6-lbs., and Tls. 1.42 for 8-lbs. of like classification.

Drills.—The business has been small. It consists chiefly of *English* makes and former prices have been fully maintained. A fine 15-lbs. Cloth has yielded Tls. 2.25 as a recompense to the holder for his continued firmness, while for a good 14-lbs. and for *Pillar* Tls. 1.85 and Tls. 1.80½ per piece have been paid. For *American* or *Dutch* there has not been any inquiry, and rates are nominally as last quoted.

Jeans.—*American.*—970 pieces P.M.C.J. at Tls. 2.35 per piece is about the sum of the week's doings.

Sheetings.—1,600 pieces 14-lbs. *English*—good—at Tls. 2.31 per piece were booked on this day week, and that is the only transaction to be recorded to-day.

Fancy Cottons.—In the *Gentian Shirtings* market there has been more activity, but few sales have taken place. The supply of really good stuff on hand is extremely small, and holders seem inclined to make the utmost out of their stock. *Handkerchiefs*, *Chintzes* and such articles have been utterly unsaleable, and the little improvement recently experienced in the demand for *Turkey Reds* seems to have vanished again, or is fast going. A few *Muslins* at Tl. 0.62½ per piece are amongst the week's settlements. *Velvets* are lower and in little request, but a small business has been transacted in *Velveteens* at Tl. 0.12 per yard.

Woolens.—*Camlets.*—Whilst last-mail was under despatch a trifling demand was noticeable, and it was eagerly taken advantage of and speedily satisfied. 600 pieces assorted were taken at Tls. 12.00 a 12.50 per piece. Since then quietness has prevailed. *Long Ells*, 100 pieces scarlet V. and a few L. mark, have been settled at quotations. *Spanish Stripes.*—No private sale reported, but, at the close, there are signs of renewed life. *Medium Cloths*, *Figured Orleans*, and *Lastings.*—A very limited business and a quiet market. No. 2 *Crape Lastings.*—500 pieces at Tls. 3.70. *Plain Orleans.*—Out of favor again.

So much, in reference to the private doings of the period under review, and the record of the Auctions during same time is even less cheerful in its general character. The *Chung Ho*, held on the 18th, initiated lower rates; the *Fuh Sing* and *Van Loong*, on the 20th, followed in the same groove; the *Kin Ming*, on the 21st, did not alter or arrest the downward course, and the *Yuen-fong*, which came off yesterday, was not the exception to the rule. The particulars are given below.

C. P. H.		Scarlet.	Dark Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White.	Purple.	Black.	Brown.
Camlets, Retail prices	per piece...Tls.	13.3.5	12.0.0	12.6.7½	11.5.5	13.3.0	...	...	12.5.0	11.3.0	...
Long Ells,	" " " " "	6.4.9	6.8.5	6.6.0	7.0.0	7.2.0	...	...	7.8.0	7.2.5	...
Spanish Stripes,	" " " " " " "	0.5.3½	0.5.1	0.5.2	0.5.6	0.5.4	0.5.8	0.5.7	0.5.6	0.5.7	0.5.2

KIN-MING, Auction 21st instant.	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green.	Orange.	Ash.	White	Purple.	Black.	Brown	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales.
Camlets C.P.H. p. pce. ¥	13.30/35	.....	12.67½	.....	13.32½	...	...	.....	11.60/57½	.....	13.30/37½	13.25/30	Fca. 500
Long Ells " " "	6.4.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	500
Lasting Lion " " "	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	11.27½	.....	.....	11.20	} 160
" Elephant " " "	.....	.....	10.15	.....	.....	...	...	.....	10.17½/15	.....	.....	.....	
Sp. Stripes C.P.H. p. yd.,	0.53½/53½	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	96

YUEN-FONG, 23rd inst.													
Camlets G.G. p. pce. ¥	12.72½	11.05/15	12.57½	11.52½	13.10	...	...	.....	11.20	.....	13.00	.....	200
" S.S.G. " " "	12.75/70	11.05/12½	12.55	11.50	13.10/12½	...	...	12.47½	11.12½	.....	13.07½	.....	400
Sp. Stripes T.T.B. p. yd.,	0.55½	0.56½	0.52½/52½	0.57½	0.57½	0.62	0.58	0.59	0.60	.....	.....	.....	252

MISCELLANEOUS.													
Camlets L.L.L. p. pce. ¥	.....	.....	11.10/27½	10.60	12.25	...	...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40

AUCTION SALES OF COTTON GOODS—

"*Fuh-Sing.*"—20th instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs. *Red Lion*, 1,500 pieces, at Tls. 1.58 a 1.58½ per piece, and 6-lbs. *Red Pheasant*, 750 pieces, at Tls. 1.02 per piece. JEANS—8-lbs. *Green Peacock*, 500 pieces, at Tls. 1.29 per piece. YARN—5 bales, No. 28, *Red Pheasant*, at Tls. 70.00 per bale. HANDKERCHIEFS—1,000 dozens, at Tl. 0.46½ per dozen. VELVETS—22-inch *Black Lie Woman*, 250 pieces, at Tl. 0.15.8 a 0.15.8½ per yard.

"*Van Loong.*"—

GREY SHIRTINGS—6-lbs. *Lie Eagle*, 1,500 pieces, at Tl. 0.97½ per piece. DRILLS—14-lbs. *Dragon*, 2,250 pieces, at Tls. 1.77 per piece. JEANS—8-lbs. *Peacock*, 2,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.30½ for *Common*, Tls. 1.39½ for *Best*. VELVETS—22-inch *Black Lie Woman*, 390 pieces, at Tl. 0.15.6 per yard. IRISHES—*Woman Chop*, 100 pieces, at Tls. 2.90½ a 2.90½ per piece.

"*Kin Ming.*"—21st instant—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs., 7,200 pieces, at Tls. 1.38 a 1.38½ for *Green Lion*, Tls. 1.46 a 1.46½ for *Blue Lion*, Tls. 1.58 a 1.57 for *Red Lion*; and 7-lbs., 1,750 pieces, at Tls. 1.01 for *Green Peacock*, Tls. 1.20 a 1.19½ for *Blue Lion*. T-CLOTHS—7-lbs., 1,550 pieces, at Tls. 1.07 for *Green Ram*, Tls. 1.16 for *Blue Ram*, Tls. 1.12½ for *Green Eagle*.

MISCELLANEOUS—

GREY SHIRTINGS—8½-lbs., 4,250 pieces, at Tls. 1.47½ a 1.48 for *Lion and Sword*, Tls. 1.35 for *Green Stag* (damaged); 7-lbs., 1,500 pieces, at Tls. 1.10 a 1.12 for *Lion and Sword*, Tls. 1.05 for *Standard Bearer* (sound), and 6-lbs. *Standard Bearer* (sound), 1,500 pieces, at Tl. 1.00 per piece. T-CLOTHS—7-lbs. *Joss*, 1,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.08½ per piece, and 6-lbs. *Lion*, 2,500 pieces, at Tl. 0.81½ a 0.81 per piece. WHITE SHIRTINGS—64-reed *Joss*, 2,000 pieces, at Tls. 1.50½ a 1.51 per piece. DRILLS—14-lbs. *Dragon*, 1,500 pieces, at Tls. 1.79 per piece. VELVETS—22-inch *Black Levita* and *Hudson*, true *Woman*, 150 pieces, at Tl. 0.18½ a 0.18 per yard. TURKEY RED CAMBRICS—2½-lbs. *Fisherman*, 180 pieces, at Tls. 1.60 per piece, and with all faults, 850 pieces, at Tls. 1.74½ for 2.14-lbs. *Green Joss* Tls. 1.62½ for 2.8-lbs. *Fisherman*, Tls. 1.42½ for 2.7-lbs. *Black Joss*, Tls. 1.40½ for 2.12-lbs. *Bull Head*, Tls. 1.33½ for 2.8-lbs. for *Bul Head*, Tls. 1.24½ for 2.4-lbs. *Bull Head*, Tls. 1.18 for 2-lbs. *Sun*.

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.*		QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.				DUTY.*			
				Tls. m. c.						Tls. m. c.			
G. E. GRAY SHIRTINGS—						LASTINGS, 30 yds							
6-lbs. 39 in. 38½ yds.	#	po.	0.9.3 to 1.0.2			pr pol. 8.2.5 to 11.5.0				0.0.5 } Per Chang of 141 inches.			
7-lbs.			0.9.8, 1.2.4			CHAPE LASTINGS, 30 yds. nm.				3.7.0, 8.0.0			
Dewhurst's Eagle			1.3.5, 1.3.4			CHAPE LUSTRES				3.0.0, 3.5.0			
8½ @ 8½ lbs.			1.1.0, 1.8.6			PLAIN—Do. Black				3.0.0, 3.9.0			
D. Eagle X.X.			1.8.8			ORLEANS—Fig., 30 yds.				2.5.0, 3.6.0			
9 a 9½ lbs.			1.8.0, 2.1.5			Special Colors & Patterns ..				3.5.0, 3.7.5			
9½ a 10-lbs.			1.9.4, 2.3.5	0.0.8 per pce.									
Dewhurst's, Best			2.3.5, 2.6.3			Metals and Sundries.							
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—						QUICKSILVER pr pol.				55.0.0, 57.0.0		2.0.0 per pol.	
40 yds. 36 in. 56 R. nom.	#	po.	1.3.0, 1.4.5			TIN PLATES—14 x 10...pr box.				4.1.0, 4.2.5		0.4.0 "	
60 reed			1.3.5, 1.5.0			Small				4.0.5, ...			
64 "			1.5.0, 1.7.0			IRON WIRE—No. 11 pr pol.				4.5.0, ...			
64 " Best & 66 Reed, ..			1.8.0, 2.0.0			12/16... ..				5.0.0, ...		0.2.5 "	
66 @ 80 reed.			1.9.5, 2.3.0			17/23... ..				5.7.5, ...			
Best			2.2.5, 2.8.0			STRAITS TIN, Fong Hing.				17.4.0, 17.5.0			
DRILLS, Am. 40 yd 30 in 15 lb. nom.			2.7.5, 2.9.7			Fok Chok.				16.8.0, ...		1.2.5 "	
English, " 14 a 15-lbs.			1.7.5, 2.2.0	0.1.0 "		Common chops.				13.0.0, 16.0.0			
Do. Fine to Finest, ..			2.4.0, 2.6.0			STEEL pr tub.				3.6.0, ...		0.2.5 "	
Dutch, 13 a 14½-lbs.			2.1.0, 2.2.5			Hambro pr pol.				3.7.0, ...			
JAKES, Dh., Best, 30 yd. 30 in. 8½ lbs.			2.1.0			JAPAN COPPER, Finger... ..				.....			
English " 8 a 8½ lbs.			1.2.9, 1.9.5	0.0.7½ "		Slab, best.				18.0.0, ...		0.6.0 "	
American " ..			1.7.0, 2.3.5			Ore				17.0.0, ...			
SHEETINGS—						HOOP IRON				2.6.5, 2.7.0		0.1.2½ "	
Amr., 40 yds. 36 a 38 in. 15 lbs.			2.9.0, 3.1.0	0.0.8 "		FIG IRON pr ton.				18.0.0, 20.0.0		0.6.7½ "	
Eng. " .., 14 a 16 lbs.			2.3.0, 2.4.5			NAILED IRON—							
T-CLOTHS—						Dawes' Best pr pol.				2.2.5, 2.3.0			
6-lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. Ord.	p.	po.	0.7.6, 0.9.2			H. Rogers, Sons & Co.				2.2.5, ...			
7-lbs. 24 yds. 32 in. Ord.			0.9.0, 1.0.4	0.0.4 "		Belgian				1.6.5, 1.7.5		0.1.2½ "	
6-lbs. Mex. ....			.....			M. M. Crown				2.0.5, 2.1.5			
7-lbs.			1.0.7, 1.5.5			Bar—Dawes'				2.3.5, ...			
8 to 8½-lbs.			1.4.0, 1.7.0	0.0.8 "		Round				2.3.0, 2.3.5			
Better kinds and XX			1.7.0, 1.9.5			LEAD—L B.				5.5.5, ...		0.2.5 "	
HANDKERCHIEFS—						Common Brands				5.5.0, ...			
Blue 28 a 31 in.	#	dz.	0.4.2, 0.5.8	0.0.2½ per doz.		COTTON, Common, nom.				10.2.0, 10.8.0			
Brown			0.4.0, 0.4.2			Medium				11.0.0, 11.2.0		0.3.5 "	
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS, White # po.			1.8.0, 1.9.5	0.1.0 per pce.		Best				11.5.0, 11.8.0			
Dyed.			2.2.0, 2.3.0	0.1.5 "		SUGAR—							
BROCADES—White, 40 yds.			1.9.0, 2.0.0	0.1.0 "		White, Swatow, No. 1				5.8.0, 6.0.0		0.2.0 "	
Dyed.			2.6.0, 2.8.5	0.1.0 "		" 2				5.0.0, 5.6.0			
DAMASKS, Dyed, 40 yds.			3.6.0, 4.5.0	0.2.0 "		" 3				4.4.0, 5.0.0		0.1.2 "	
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS			2.0.0, 2.5.0	0.1.5 "		Canton, " 1				4.8.0, 5.4.0		0.2.0 "	
ORIENT—Assorted nom.			1.2.0, 1.4.0			" 2				4.2.0, 4.6.0		0.1.2 "	
Blue			1.1.5, 1.2.5	0.0.7 "		" 3				3.5.0, 4.0.0		0.2.0 "	
Brown nom.			1.2.0, 1.3.0			Brown, Swatow, Best				2.5.0, 3.0.0		0.2.0 "	
Scarlet			1.4.0, 1.6.5			Common				2.0.0, 2.5.0			
PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds.			1.4.0, 2.2.0	0.0.7 per 30 yds.		Canton				2.5.0, 3.0.0		0.1.2½ "	
50/52			3.6.0, 4.2.0			" Common				1.6.0, 2.0.0			
Best			4.2.0, 4.7.5			PEPPER—Black				6.9.0, ...		0.3.6 "	
T. REDS, 24 yd. 2 a 3 lb. 32 in. nom.			0.9.0, 1.9.0	0.1.5 per pce.		White				12.0.0, 12.5.0		0.5.0 "	
Best # po. ....			.....	0.1.8 "		RATTANS—Common				2.8.0, 3.2.0			
VELVETS—Black, 22 in.	#	yd.	0.1.5, 0.1.8	0.1.5 "		Good to fine.				2.2.0, 3.5.0		0.1.5 "	
VELVETRENS—Black, 18 in.			0.1.2, 0.1.3			Best				3.6.0, 4.0.0			
26 in. ....			.....	0.0.3½ per 30 yds.		JAPAN WOOD—							
BLU DENIMS			0.0.3, 0.0.5			3 pieces to the picul.				2.8.0, 3.0.0		0.1.0 "	
DIMITIES, 12 yds. 37 in.	#	po.	1.1.5, 1.2.0	0.0.6½ per pce.		5 " " " & inf.				1.8.0, 2.4.0			
41 in.			1.4.0, 1.5.0			SANDALWOOD, South Sea				3.4.0, 3.5.0			
MUSLINS, 12 yds. 42 in. nom.			0.6.0, 0.7.0	0.0.3½ "		Timor				9.0.0, 10.0.0		0.4.0 "	
YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28 a 32			65.0.0, 80.0.0	0.7.0 per pcl.		Malabar.				16.5.0, 18.0.0			
CAMLETS, English, S S nom.			11.8.0, 12.7.5			MANGROVE BARK				0.7.0, 1.3.0		0.0.3½ "	
GG " ..			12.3.0, ...	0.0.5 }		FLINT STONES				0.4.5, ...			
SSG " ..			12.4.0, ...			+COALS, Cdif (to arrive)				7.8.0, ...			
Dutch. Tls.			19.0.0, 21.0.0			American				9.0.0, ...			
MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS # yd.			0.7.0, 1.4.0	0.1.2 }		Sydney (Bulli)				7.0.0, ...			
SPANISH STRIPES			0.4.8, 0.5.3			Newcastle, N.S.W.				6.7.5, ...		0.0.5 per ton.	
" " T.T.-B			0.5.5, ...			Takasima (large).				6.0.0, ...			
" " H.H.			0.5.6, ...			(dust).				4.5.0, ...			
LONG ELLS—						Japan				4.3.0, 6.2.5			
Scarlet, 24 yrd. H.H.	#	po.	6.5.5, ...			Formosa				4.5.0, ...			
" C.P.H.			6.4.9, ...	0.0.4½ }		WINDOW GLASS—							
" U.U.			6.4.0, ...			Large pr box.				2.9.0, ...		0.1.5 per box.	
" V			6.3.2, 6.3.3			Small				2.4.5, 2.7.0		100 sq. feet	
Assorted, H.H. Noml.			6.5.0, 7.0.0										
" C.P.H.			6.5.0, 6.9.0										
" G.G. ....			.....										
" U.U. ....			.....										
" V			6.5.0, 6.5.5										

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 22nd August, 1877.
 compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 187 to 192, both Nos. inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATION.													
	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chakiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chado.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings	350	...	13,700	250	1,250	19,040	2,550	27,190	...	210	2,250	450	11,699	11,299
T-Cloths	150	...	2,900	250	...	5,855	750	7,575	...	400	...	...	...	...
White Shirtings	150	...	450	...	100	1,600	50	5,500	...	...	...	...	...	...
Drills, English	...	...	2,110	510	1,230	8,430	...	7,200	...	280	...	900	...	...
Do., American	195	...	...	15	...	75	...	...	...	120	...	...	...	...
Jeans, English	620	...	...	230	40	350	...	4,020	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,520	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., American	...	...	...	...	...	220	100	2,650	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. S'tings, White	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Do., Dyed	...	...	150	...	50	150	100	200	...	...	...	...	...	...
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	40	...	...	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	...	...	80	...	210	245	120	1,679	...	80	...	...	...	...
Turkey Red Shirtings	50	...	262	...	50	37	...	1,177	...	...	...	...	...	...
Velvets	30	...	25	40	84	414	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Velveteens	...	...	24	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	384	75	761	270
Handkerchiefs	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	560	840	...
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dimities	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes	102	...	84	6	258	216	...	182	...	18	48	...	...	...
Medium and Broad Cloths	48	...	40	74	174	398	6	...	...	32	...	...	60	...
Camlets	30	...	200	80	300	460	...	170	...	160	50	...	...	...
Long Ells	...	...	120	160	400	1,200	...	...	...	40	200	40	...	...
Lastings	20	...	...	60	50	260	20	540	...	20	...	...	...	...
Crape Lastings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lustres, Plain	...	...	...	...	...	50	...	100	...	...	...	60	550	...
Do., Figured	60	...	359	120	300	1,239	60	...	...	180	...	...	...	...
Do., Crape	...	...	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	...	...	...	...	...	99	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	...	...	848	...	...	250	...	...	...	...	...	462	588	...

GOODS.	DELIVERIES.		IMPORTS.		STOCKS AT DATE, BASED ON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS DATED 1ST JAN., 1877.		
	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan. 1877.	For the Week.	For Year from 1st Jan. 1877.	*At date Estimated.	†	Against 23rd Aug., 1876.
Grey Shirtings	97,038	3,227,145	200	3,661,053	1,271,500	257,800	585,300
T-Cloths	22,860	1,716,971	...	1,695,035	480,000	334,000	549,400
White Shirtings	9,430	429,624	710	448,489	122,300	31,500	151,500
Drills, English	21,380	465,139	...	411,148	7,000	83,700	150,800
Do., American	435	146,329	60	165,084	20,100	...	...
Jeans, English	5,350	172,643	...	220,996	85,700	...	...
Do., American	1,060	20,560	...	32,440	12,200	...	19,200
Sheetings, English	1,550	44,252	...	21,816	?	13,100	...
Do., American and Continentals	3,160	139,053	...	150,606	21,700	...	2,200
Dyed Shirtings	...	13,312	...	10,189	?	200	18,300
Brocades and Spotted Shirtings, White	...	5,095	...	2,048	4,200	...	3,700
Do., Dyed	800	17,753	...	19,893	4,500	...	6,000
Damasks, Dyed	200	8,124	...	11,037	3,700	...	3,100
Chintzes	3,114	78,103	55	81,819	27,700	...	49,500
Turkey Red Shirtings	1,726	75,089	...	64,625	44,000	1,400	49,100
Velvets	1,949	35,190	164	39,465	6,100	...	3,400
Velveteens	462	7,696	...	9,096	3,300	...	9,400
Handkerchiefs	3,960	172,599	...	292,576	126,700	15,700	26,600
Muslins	1,800	22,850	...	29,395	8,900	3,800	8,000
Dimities	100	10,652	...	5,336	5,200	...	7,800
Spanish Stripes	1,118	29,726	6	32,007	7,300	...	10,500
Medium and Broad Cloths	1,012	15,445	6	18,643	18,300	5,700	23,500
Camlets	1,570	53,713	...	55,960	9,100	900	11,100
Long Ells	2,240	53,872	60	64,280	15,300	3,600	19,100
Lastings	1,010	26,217	...	33,960	10,000	4,500	13,500
Crape Lastings	260	3,119	...	3,564	500	4,800	7,200
Lustres, Plain	760	9,665	...	10,047	4,600	1,200	15,400
Do., Figured	2,568	82,862	...	102,287	30,300	...	35,400
Do., Crape	150	4,840	...	4,927	2,300	...	2,800
Lead in Pigs	99	70,644	...	80,740	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	2,148	61,238	1,344	178,503	...	...	...

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex Hindostan, Stentor, B. F. Watson, Peshawur, Iraouaddy, Cassandra, Nestor, Corea, Duke of Abercorn, Wigton, several Coasters, and of sundry Re-exports.

EXPORTS.

SILK.—A very limited demand for silk at about Tls. 25 per picul lower than last mail's rates has to be recorded this week. Public and private telegrams differ considerably as to values of the article in London and Lyons, but the latter are accepted generally as showing the true position of affairs, unaltered apparently except for the worse. The settlements of 500 bales include—

Bird chop "Kin-hoc"	Tls. 340	= 15/10
Do. "Fung-ling"	Tls. 330	= 15/4
S.S.S.	Tls. 325	= 15/2
Kukee's "Kin-ling"	Tls. 320	= 14/11
Common @ Market No. 5 Teatlee	Tls. 290 and 315	= 13/6 and 14/8
9/12 moss (old silk)	Tls. 225	= 10/7

and some consignments on native account amongst which are about 150 bales of "Pah-hoc" and "Pah-ling" Hochun Teatlees. The lower classes it will be noticed have been chiefly enquired for, chops being entirely out of favor. Purchases up-country are said to continue on a very limited scale; arrivals only keep pace with settlements and the unsold stock is about 16,500 bales. Export remains comparatively very insignificant with prices nearly on a level with those current eighteen months since.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

AUGUST 25, 1877.

ARRIVALS.—(Not reported above)—August 17th, British barque *Strathearn*; 21st, British barque *Supreme*, both from Cardiff.DEPARTURES.—(Not reported above)—August 21st, British steamer *Killarney* for London, and British barque *Strathedin* for New York; 23rd, British barque *Albert Victor* for London.The French mail steamer *Iraoudy* takes about 700 bales of SILK, and between 900 and 1,000 tons of Tea.

WEATHER.—Very heavy rain fell on Saturday and Sunday, and again on Tuesday, since when it has been fine. The thermometer has ranged between 69 and 90.

EXCHANGE.—On London, Bank Bills, 6 months' sight, 5s. 4½d. First-class Credits to Bank, 5s. 5½d. Private and Documentary, 5s. 5½d. On Paris, Bank, Frs. 6.77½; Private, Frs. 6.85 a 6.87½. On India—Bombay Bank, Rs. 306 a 307. Calcutta Bank, Rs. 306 a 307. On Hongkong, Bank Bills, demand, 27 per cent. discount. Private, 15 days' sight, 27½. Gold Bars, Tls. 182. Bar Silver, Sh. Tls. 111.20. Mexican dollars, Shanghai Tls. 73.60 per 100. Carolus, Sh. Tls. 84.50 per 100. Copper Cash, 1,500 per tael.

SHARES.—Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. report as follows:—

H. & S. Bank.—About 250 shares have changed hands, at £131½ cum dividend, for 30th September; and at 39% premium, exchange 73 (=Tls. 126.84) for cash. The balance sheet to 30th June shows as net profit \$347,031.72 of which \$150,000 are carried to reserve, a dividend of £1 per share declared, and a balance of \$14,027.45 carried forward. This dividend is equal to a little over 4 per cent. for the half-year. The reserve fund now amounts to \$650,000.

S. S. N. Co.—A small business has been done at £29½ and £30.

Pootung Dock Co.—There are some enquiries for this stock at £86.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Shares are wanted at quotations. For French Gas, shares £73½ are offered.

Yangtze Insurance Association.—A fair business has been done at £735 and £750.

Chinese Insurance Co.—A lot was placed at \$250, and exchange 73.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—A large business has been done in this stock at \$650 and 73, \$650 and 72, \$640 and 72½, and \$640 and 72. The market has recovered a little since, and shares have been placed at \$645 and 72, at which rate there are buyers.

China Fire Insurance Co.—A lot has been placed at \$162 and exchange 72. There are buyers at \$163.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
<i>Bank.</i>									
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	40,000	\$125	\$125	\$650,000.00	\$14,027.45	30 June 77	* £1	22 Aug. 77	39% prem., ex. 73 (=Tls. 126.84.)
<i>Steamer Companies.</i>									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	£100	£30	£615,902.35	.....	30 Dec. 76	{ Return of T. 70 on capital.	26 Mar. 77	30
China Coast Steam Navigation Co.	5,000	£100	£100	£62,522.10	£41,153.60	30 Dec. 76	* 2½%	7 Jan. 76	68
<i>Docks.</i>									
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£7,183.54	.....	30 Dec. 76	* 2%	7 July 77	240
Pootung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	* 5%	1 July 77	86
<i>Gas.</i>									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	£6,523.81	£8,917.74	31 Dec. 76	* 5%	10 July 77	142½
Compagnie du Gaz	1,000	£50	£50	£2,171.31	£2,333.25	30 Dec. 76	+ 11%	27 Feb. 77	73½
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	200	\$5,000	\$1,500	\$125,000.00	\$85,073.06	30 Apl. 77	12%	31 July 77	2,700
North-China Insurance Co., 1875/77	1,000	£2,000	£600	£202,459.66	£456,361.31	30 Dec. 76	£100 pr share	13 Apr. 77	860
Union In. Society of Canton ...	500	\$2,500	\$500	\$106,500.00	.....	31 Dec. 75	.....	.....	900
Yangtze Insurance Association	1,200	£500	£500	£240,000.00	.....	30 Sep. 76	* 7½%	12 July 77	750
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$62,507.60	\$60,969.24	30 Dec. 76	* 6%	1 Jan. 77	250
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	2,000	\$1,000	\$200	\$564,202.00	\$244,445.07	30 Dec. 76	+ \$47.50 p.sh.	20 Feb. 77	645
China Fire In. Co., Limited ...	4,000	\$500	\$100	\$339,787.30	\$96,304.86	30 Dec. 76	+ 12%	30 Dec. 76	163
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co. ...	2,150	£100	£100	.....	£1,878.61	30 Dec. 76	* 4%	15 Aug. 77	90
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	900	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nominal.

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentrs.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1872	£ 38,700.00	£ 100.00	8%	30th April & 31st Oct.	104 Nominal.
Do. 1873	£ 21,000.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	100 "
Do. 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	105 "
Lyceum Theatre Ordinary Debentures..	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	"	30th June.	18 "
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5%	31st Dec.	20 "
Chinese Imperial Government Loan ...	£ 627,015	£ 100	8%	30th June & 31st Dec.	£106 "

* For half-year.

† For year.

HANKOW.—Messrs. Gordon Bros. write, on the 13th August:—About 20,000 chests of 3rd crop Teas have arrived since the date of our last report, 31st ult., and of these nearly 10,000 have found buyers here, and 8,000 chests have been forwarded to the Shanghai market, the latter including purchases made by natives for re-sale. Our market remained quiet during the first part of the fortnight and prices were unchanged, but latterly we have had considerable excitement, and the more recent purchases shew a rise from the lowest point of fully Tls. 3 a 4 per picul. The advance is partly attributable to the favorable position of our export figures, but chiefly to profits accruing on shipments made for re-sale in Shanghai, many chops shewing as much as Tls. 3 a 4 per picul gain. Present quotations, and the eagerness of buyers to purchase both here and in Shanghai, will indubitably induce further supplies being brought to market, and it is now quite impossible to form any opinion as to the probable deficit, it being entirely dependent on the prices paid by foreigners during the next few weeks. But for the uncalculated advance now established, it is beyond question that this season's yield would have been quite 11,000,000 lbs. less than last year. We confirm our opinion of the 3rd crop being inferior to last year, and give details below of the settlements during the fortnight. To equal last year's total arrivals of Hankow District Teas, 138,000 chests are now required.—The total export is 4,550,067 lbs. less than at same date last year, while re-exports likewise exhibit a decrease of 854,276 lbs. The export to date, as per Customs Returns, stands thus:—

	lbs.	lbs.
Season 1877 x 78.....	50,267,149.....	8,245,569
" 1876 x 77.....	54,817,216.....	9,799,845
" 1875 x 76.....	48,030,175.....	9,006,661
" 1874 x 75.....	45,411,656.....	8,307,372

Exclusive of Re-exports.